

FACE - OFF



Julia Randall

Watching Tuesday's Vice Presidential debate, College Democrats are just one example of a group that has promoted political awareness and activism on campus. TURN TO PAGE 16 FOR EXTENDED ELECTION COVERAGE.

Fletcher: a band of brothers

By Amanda Goodwin and Alyssa Thurston
NEWS EDITORS

Situated in a quaint Middlebury neighborhood, Fletcher House has become one of the rowdiest party sites on campus. Fletcher inhabitants, many of whom have lived together since freshman year, are committed to turning the house into a potent social house alternative.

"The [students living on the] third floor are all friends, [as well as] at least a half of the second floor. [A lot of the guys] planned to be here together," said Cyn Hernandez '05, Fletcher House's residential advisor (RA). "There are four girls and 15 guys living in the house. We're all brothers and sisters, and we have an absolutely amazing relationship." Hernandez explained the fraternal bonds among housemates by citing a recent confrontation with a non-house member, which resulted in the banding together of Fletcher friends against the outsider. "We stand up for each other, creating essentially a family away from home," Hernandez said.

This sense of cohesion is evident in the

SEE FLETCHER, PAGE 5

Atwater still work in progress

By Kristin Fraser
STAFF WRITER

Although all 154 seniors who were lucky enough to draw into the new Atwater Commons dormitories were able to sleep in their new rooms on the first night of the College's official move-in day, they came into a dorm that was, and continues to be, a work in progress.

The construction of both the dorms and the dining hall was slated to be finished by July 30, but contracting difficulties and labor shortages have delayed the process.

"It's hard to point a finger at any one party that affected schedule on the project, but there are two subcontractors that had a measurable impact on the schedule," explained Gleason. "The masonry and drywall/carpentry subcontractors basically went out of business during the project, and it was very hard to replace them. Those delays pushed the entire project behind to a point that it was very difficult for the contractor to make up in a short period."

Since neither hall is fully complete — Hall A is missing its seminar room, laundry room and lounge, and the library space in Hall B is not done — neither yet has a permanent Certificate of Occupancy, though Hall A has a temporary one.

The continued construction involves masonry work, so some students on the east face of Hall B have been awoken each morning by the masons. They also have had their windows blocked by styrofoam to protect against falling mortar and debris.

"The students living there have been re-

SEE ATWATER, PAGE 6

Trustees, presidents and aerial dancers to descend on Middlebury

By Ben Salkow
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A half-dozen large-scale academic, administrative and ceremonial events will take place on campus simultaneously this weekend. The Abernathy Lecture Series and Nicholas R. Clifford Symposium will be held, the new library and Garden of the Seasons will both be dedicated, dancers from Project Bandaloop will throw themselves off the side of the new library, President Ronald Liebowitz will be inaugurated and, through it all, the Board of Trustees of Middlebury College will convene for their annual fall retreat at the Bread Loaf Campus.

The meeting of the trustees will include discussion of several building projects at the College, which could begin in the near future. Also on the agenda is an orientation for the new trustees, as well as participation in the inaugural celebration.

This year's Board includes five new trustees, all of whom are alumni of the College. Two new alumni trustees — Rep. William D. Delahunt '63 and Linda Foster Whitton '80 — and three term trustees — Steven B. Peterson '88, Elisabeth B. Robert '78 and Dr. Deborah G. Thomas '75 — will be welcomed at the meeting. An orientation on Thursday night will inform the new trustees of their role and involvement on the Board. Following the orientation, the Board will have a dinner with the Faculty Council, Staff Council, and the Student Government Association (SGA) Cabinet, to demonstrate a commitment to the many constituencies of the College.

On Friday, the Board will hear presentations for several building projects under consideration, including the Axinn Center for the Humanities at Starr — which, if approved, could begin construction next fall.

"A conceptual design has been prepared for presentation to the trustees at the meeting

on Oct. 8," said Christian A. Johnson Professor of Art Glenn Andres, who spoke to *The Middlebury Campus* about the proposal last month.

Andres added, "If the trustees approve the direction that the designs are going, the project will enter its design development phase in October with a goal of completing designing and permitting and beginning construction by fall of 2005 and a likely occupancy date in 2007."

In addition to the Axinn Center, a number of early proposals related to the eventual renovation of Proctor will also be presented to the full Board and, more in-depth, to the Building Committee.

"For Brainerd-Wonnacott [Proctor] we

are focusing on site selection only for presentation to the Trustees," said Project Manager Mark Gleason.

The Proctor renovation plans are complicated by the need to relocate both the College Store and the student radio station (WRMC) prior to closing the building for construction. Several possible solutions have surfaced for the situation, including the possibility of turning the McCullough Social Space into the College Store and building a new and larger black box theatre as an addition to McCullough Hall, which could be used both as a social and per-

SEE SIXTY PAGE 5



Julia Randall

Scaling the walls of the New Library, a member of Project Bandaloop practices for this weekend's Inauguration ceremonies.

MIDDBRIEFS

BY AMANDA GUSTIN, VIRGINIA HARPER
AND AMANDA GOODWIN

Study abroad for scholars

Three Middlebury professors have received international grants to perform research abroad during their 2005-2006 sabbatical years.

Llorenç Comajoan of the Spanish department received a grant from the Catalan government to research plurilingual societies in Spain and across Europe. He will be working with a research group at the University of Barcelona to produce a paper entitled "Evolution of Plurilingual Societies: Representation, Behavior, and Linguistic Capitals." One of the main goals of the project will be to develop a comparative theory framework to use in understanding those same plurilingual societies.

Peter Schumer of the Mathematics department will continue a longstanding interest in the game of "Go" by living in Kyoto, Japan and teaching at the Associated Kyoto Program at Doshisha University. Students from prestigious liberal arts colleges from across the United States will join him in learning the game of "Go" and its cultural and historical context across Japan. Schumer will also be pursuing personal research into a type of Japanese mathematics called sangaku.

Neil Waters of the History department will also be spending the 2005-2006 year in Kyoto as part of the Associated Kyoto Program at Doshisha University. He will be teaching a course on the history of pre-modern Japan and pursuing independent research. His project is entitled "Tiger by the Tail: Tomeoka Kosuke and Japan's Young Men's Associations."

CSO preps seniors for jobs

Career Services Office (CSO) held senior meetings for several days last week in an effort to educate students about recruiting for post-graduate jobs. An impressive 525 students attended, according to Don Kjelleren, associate director for Recruiting Development and the Senior Program. He said that in years past, hiring companies have been disappointed at students' preparation for entering the job market. This year, seniors' new prerequisites for participation in recruiting involve writing cover letters, polishing their resumes, networking and interviewing. In addition to attending a senior meeting and signing a code of conduct with the CSO staff, seniors must also create a profile on MOJO, Middlebury's alumni search engine, and attend a Career Skills workshop in order to take part in on-campus recruiting.

Kjelleren said that the goal is to "get students ready for the interviews as soon as possible. Fall employers start pushing to vie for the best and the brightest the moment seniors arrive back from summer break and we need to impose some level of control to both enhance the majority of students' chances and to level the playing field among competing employers."

According to the National Association of College and Employers, which provides employment information for participants such as Middlebury, U.S. businesses are hiring 13.1 percent more college students in the class of 2005 than in the class of 2004. This is good news for Middlebury seniors, as Kjelleren noted the "overall economy shows positive signs. Early indications are that employers are more eager to hire than in the past few years." Forty-seven percent of Middlebury graduates left campus last year with a job and nine percent were still searching. With current forecasts, there should be even less looking at this time next year.

Young Epidemiology Scholar

Firstyear student Robert Levine won the Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) Competition, researching the results of indoor tanning habits during his senior year at Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire, Ill. The award is presented to the student that best carries out the competition's mission of "Investigat[ing] a pattern of disease, an outbreak or a health hazard in a community."

CORRECTIONS

The pie chart for the Opinions online poll question "Do the new Middcard alternatives make life easier for you?" was mislabeled. The numbers shown on the graph represented the total votes recieved for each category, not the percentage of the total answers. *The Campus* regrets this error.

Alcohol policy up for debate



Julia Randall

The subject of alcohol consumption in public and private spaces on campus was recently discussed by Community Council.

By Eri Nosaka
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, the Community Council began discussion about modifying the current alcohol policy to clarify ambiguous language and policy in regards to private and public spaces and open alcohol containers on campus.

The Council began the review of modified handbook language that Dean of College and Professor of American Literature Tim Spears, Associate Dean of Student Affairs Marichal Gentry, Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah, Director of the Center of Campus Activities and Leadership Doug Adams and Dean of the Students and Community Council Co-Chair Ann Hanson drafted in response to alcohol policy issues that were raised in the Council last year.

The first question addressed at the meeting was of clarifying language about what constitutes public and private spaces — namely lounges — within college dorms, since currently students of legal drinking age may drink in private but not public spaces.

The idea of altering the previous rules — which allow no drinking in lounges as they were considered public spaces — stemmed from the idea that there should be more privileges for students who of the legal drinking age.

"We want to give responsible adults the chance to act like responsible adults.

However, these changes [in the policy] can only occur through trust, good judgment and time," said Hanson.

The Council discussed the possibility of designating certain common rooms as "senior common rooms" where students who are of legal age would be

**"We want to
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**— Ann Hanson,
dean of students**

allowed to drink.

Under such a rule, of-age students would be able to drink a beer or glass of wine in designated lounges while

watching a sports game on television or while hanging out with their friends in a lounge.

The Council discussed how the senior common rooms would be designated, and mainly focused on the idea that each Commons could choose senior commons rooms, with the Council overseeing the process to ensure that there is uniformity among the Commons.

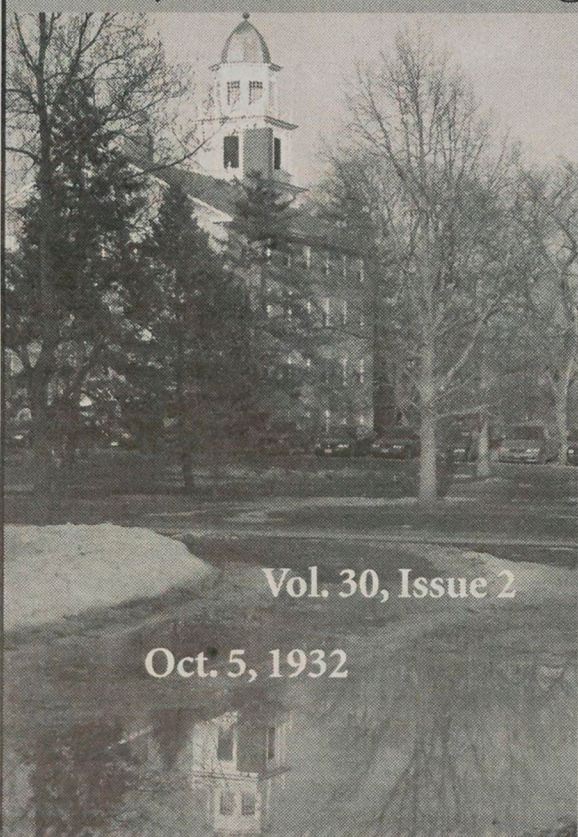
Another issue that the Council addressed is the open container policy at Middlebury College. According to Vermont state law, an of-age person is not permitted to carry an open container in a public space, which means that an of-age student walking across campus with an open beer is violating state law.

The Council discussed how best to enforce this law on campus and debated over a proposed warning and fine system for open containers. One of the prime concerns of the Council was that they can avoid creating a second citation system.

"We want to detach students who are older than 21 from the citation policy, but there should still be a consequence for those who are in violation of the open container rule," said Spears.

These, as well as other, proposed changes to the alcohol policy will continue to be discussed next week at the Community Council meeting, when the Council will also likely vote on the proposed changes.

This Week in Middlebury History



"Full Value Received"

"The talks of freshman week are fast becoming a memory. You are a part of Middlebury now."

One of the principles which you have long held and which is just as true at Middlebury College as anywhere in the world is the principle of getting full value for your money. It is costing somebody a tidy sum to send you to college. Be certain that this money is not wasted.

Do not think that if you study hard and pass your courses with creditable marks that you are of necessity getting the most for your money and time. It is essential to enter into activities also.... On the other hand an overemphasis of extra curricular activities is equally unwise.

But above everything else we

caution you to remember that there is leisure at Middlebury.... If you will consider a bit it is plain to see that you will have more time to use as you please during the next four years than you are likely to have again, or at least until you retire at the age of seventy-five without enough stamina to play a good game of croquet.

Become a friend with your professor and swap ideas with him. He's really not a bad sort after all.

Middlebury also has a library. It is a fine place to study on your own initiative.... Quite likely you will never again have access to as fine a library. Make good use of it.

So we hope you will make the most of college, 1936. And be determined to get full value received."

*** The above text was modified, using original language from its 1932 publication. ***

Vol. 30, Issue 2

Oct. 5, 1932

Meet your new SGA representatives

By Laura K. Budzyna

STAFF WRITER

For everyone who has not met this year's student Senate, here is a quick overview of the animated group:

Atwater Commons



Julia Randall

Annie Williams '07

Annie, an Allen JC, recognizes the importance of representing the opinions of students from all four classes. As for her goals, she says, "I fully support initiatives to reform the party-hosting policy and I plan to develop an initiative in favor of the simplification of the party-registration process."

Brainerd Commons

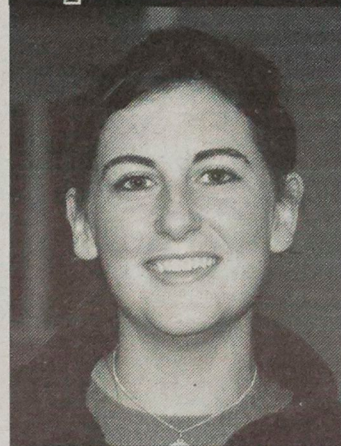


Julia Randall

Nura Suleiman '07

According to Nura, "Together we will build a sense of community, laugh at people from the other Commons when they fall down stairs, plan incredible Commons events and trips and bring Brainerd back into all its glory and splendor."

Sophomore Class



Julia Randall

Doug Sisson '07 and Isabel Yordan '07

Doug, who has extensive high school experience as class president and a member of various committees, wants to focus on communication forums and on initiatives for social policies. "Middlebury's social scene has moved off campus for a reason, and if the administration wants to change this, less rigid social policies are a realistic solution." Isabel plans to attack the problems she noticed in her first year, "from the constantly broken washing machines in Stewart Hall to the kinks of the room draw system."

Elizabeth Schaumburg '06

After spending last year as a tri-chair of Cook Commons, Elizabeth's goal as a senator is increased interaction between the SGA and the students. "I would like to make communication between the SGA and the Commons more frequent and smoother, allowing for more student opinions to be heard and the integration of the student's requests into college policy and direction."

Cook Commons

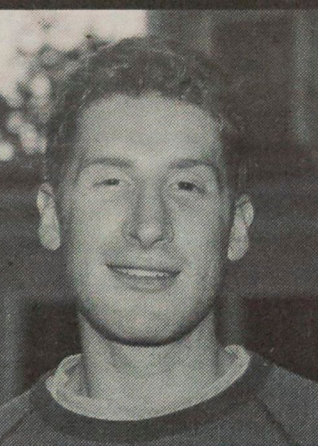


Julia Randall

Eli Berman '07

Eli believes that "the possibilities and promise of a completely developed Commons system, with significant funds, good leadership, and outreach is ideal." He hopes to make sure that Wonnacott "not only [has] a voice, but a loud one, and actually [affects] other parts of the campus."

Wonnacott Commons

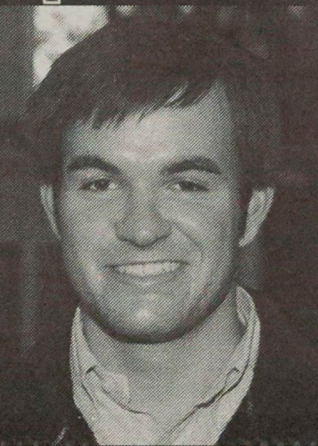


Julia Randall

Matthew Haddad '05 and Justin Ingoglia '05

This year, Matthew Haddad aims "to find a simpler way to organize parties here on campus as I know that this is a major concern among many members of the student body. I feel that any effort to avoid students having to drive off campus for parties is warranted." Justin Ingoglia plans to focus on the issue of student parking. "I believe all students believe they deserve more spaces to park, especially outside McCullough, the library, Voter Hall, and Bi Hall."

Sophomore Class

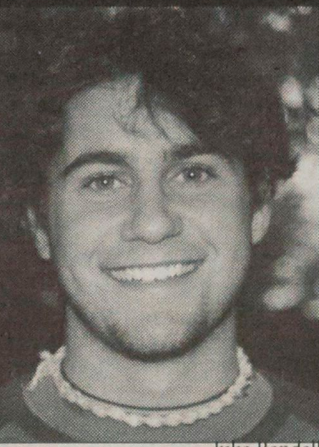


Julia Randall

Mark Loper '06

In light of Middlebury's administration change, Mark points out that "the SGA has a unique opportunity to establish a productive relationship with Mr. Liebowitz that is visible to students." He wants to take on the "draconian" alcohol policy and address the issue of disappearing cups in the dining halls.

First-Year Class

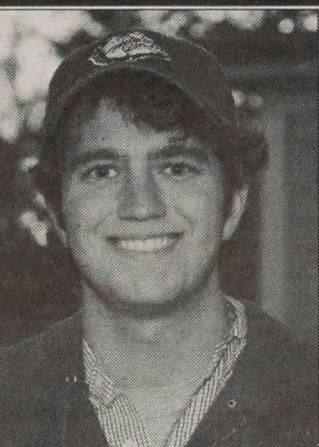


Julia Randall

Jake Cohen '08 and Fil Marinkovic '08

Two-time president of his high school class Jake Cohen is excited to start creating positive change on campus. Just a few of his goals: "better laundry facilities, later library and Midd ride hours, an amended Commons system, a totally free music system (like Napster) and even better financial aid." As for Fil, he's brimming with even bigger ideas: from a short film festival and a charity week to a skating rink on Battell Beach.

Inter-House Council

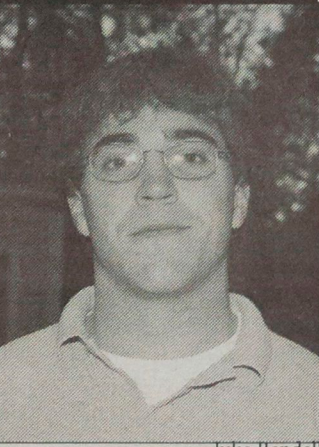


Julia Randall

Mike Vilarello '05

After he successfully expanded the time limits for social house parties as last year's IHC senator, Mike looks forward to another year. He plans to "make it easier to have parties through amending alcohol policy and minimizing the presence of security to the extent that is possible."

Junior Fall/Winter

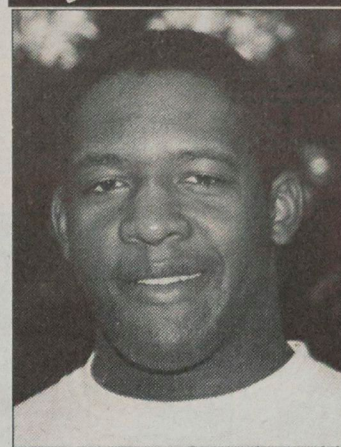


Julia Randall

Marcus Hughes '06

Marcus's main concern for the coming year is more feedback and communication between the student Senate and the rest of the Middlebury population. One of his ideas is to "develop online communities for our class where we can discuss issues on campus and abroad."

Junior Class

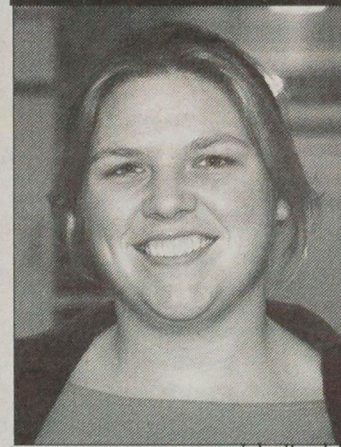


Julia Randall

Leslie Wade '04.5

Leslie, last year's MCAB president and co-coordinator of the Napster Initiative, will work toward more recognition of Feb graduates, funding for Feb senior week and awareness of issues concerning Febs. "The Feb program is a fabulous part of Middlebury, but there is not a consistent message sent out to us over the course of our four years here."

Senior Feb Class

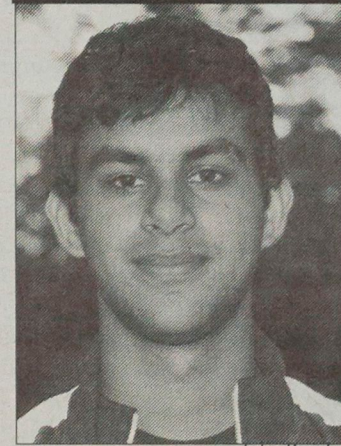


Julia Randall

Rishabh Kahsyp '08

Armed with experience in student government and as his senior class president in high school, Rishabh is eager to represent the students of Ross Commons. In his words, "I have hippo pride through and through."

Ross Commons



Julia Randall

All of the new SGA members and their constituents are looking forward to a successful year for the Middlebury College community.

PLEASE REFER TO
PAGE 4 FOR FURTHER
SGA
COVERAGE.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY CAROLINE STAUFFER

MADRID — Last week, the Spanish government approved preliminary legislation granting homosexuals equal rights in marriage and adoption. If the parliament concurs with the approval, Spain will become the third country in the European Union (EU) to pass such legislation. Such a liberal step, remarkable when one considers Spain's traditional ties to the Catholic Church and the conservative rule of the Partido Popular, is only one example of the enormous transitions occurring in the country.

While Spain has been an EU member since 1986, it has historically kept some distance from Europe. This stems in part from a long-held belief that Spain, possessing a distinct culture, and separated from the continent by the Pyrenees Mountains, is somehow different from Europe. Francisco Franco's repressive military dictatorship created further cause for separation.

It is difficult to believe that just over six months ago, the modern, functional Atocha train station, from which I routinely depart for the University of Carlos III in Getafe, was a scene of horror and chaos when the train bombings of March 11 occurred. While the train schedules are back on track, the tragedy has not left the public consciousness.

Three days after the bombings, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero of the Socialist Party became the new prime minister of Spain. The rejection of the Partido Popular after eight years was certainly not expected. Former Prime Minister Jose María Aznar even called the elections a victory for terrorism. Such changes in government and the impacts of March 11 are affecting the country both politically and socially, and the distance between Spain and the rest of Europe appears to be decreasing.

Just a year before the new elections, in March 2003, pictures of Bush, Blair and Aznar at a summit in the Azores releasing a statement of Iraq's intent graced the front pages of Spanish press. Now, pictures of Zapatero with French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder are shown in Spanish media. Spain has also long since withdrawn its troops from Iraq, and from a war that had never garnered public approval in the first place. Indeed, most Spaniards express overwhelming approval for Zapatero's policies.

Culturally, there have also been changes. Although Madrid still runs on a schedule some two hours behind the rest of Europe, some stores remain open during siesta, which has mostly been squeezed between 2 and 4 p.m. However, Spaniards still stay out until 8 a.m. on Sunday mornings, fight bulls despite international protest and maintain the pride and flare that has defined them for centuries. What is traditionally Spanish is just adapting to changing politics, globalization and a homogenizing Europe — and, unfortunately, the effects of terrorism.



Courtesy

Themed parties spark controversy on campus

By Andrea M. LaRocca
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

This weekend, two parties on campus sparked controversy over the appropriate nature of their themes. On Friday night, about 30 protestors interrupted a "Cowboys and Injuns" theme party hosted by the Ultimate Frisbee team in Pearsons Lounge. Another party at the Mill on Saturday night, called "Asia: the Continent," has since been criticized by members of the Middlebury Asian Students Organization (MASO).

The protestors of the Frisbee party consisted primarily of members from the African-American Alliance, MASO, Pan-African Latino Asian Native American (PALANA) and Posse, in addition to other students. When the protestors showed up at the Frisbee party, the Frisbee team responded to their complaints by sending the party-goers back to their dorms to change out of their cowboy and Indian costumes and by informing newcomers to the party of the theme change. The Frisbee team also collectively wrote a letter of formal apology in this week's Opinions section in *The Middlebury Campus*.

Complaints about the Mill's Asian party theme circulated amongst MASO members early this week via e-mail and were addressed by Mill members, some of whom are also members of MASO, again via email. The Mill also apologized for any misunderstanding and claimed the party was actually a cultural celebration of Asian heritage, saying that the invitations that advertised the Mill party as "Asia: the continent: Wear a little Asian and rock with us," were misinterpreted.

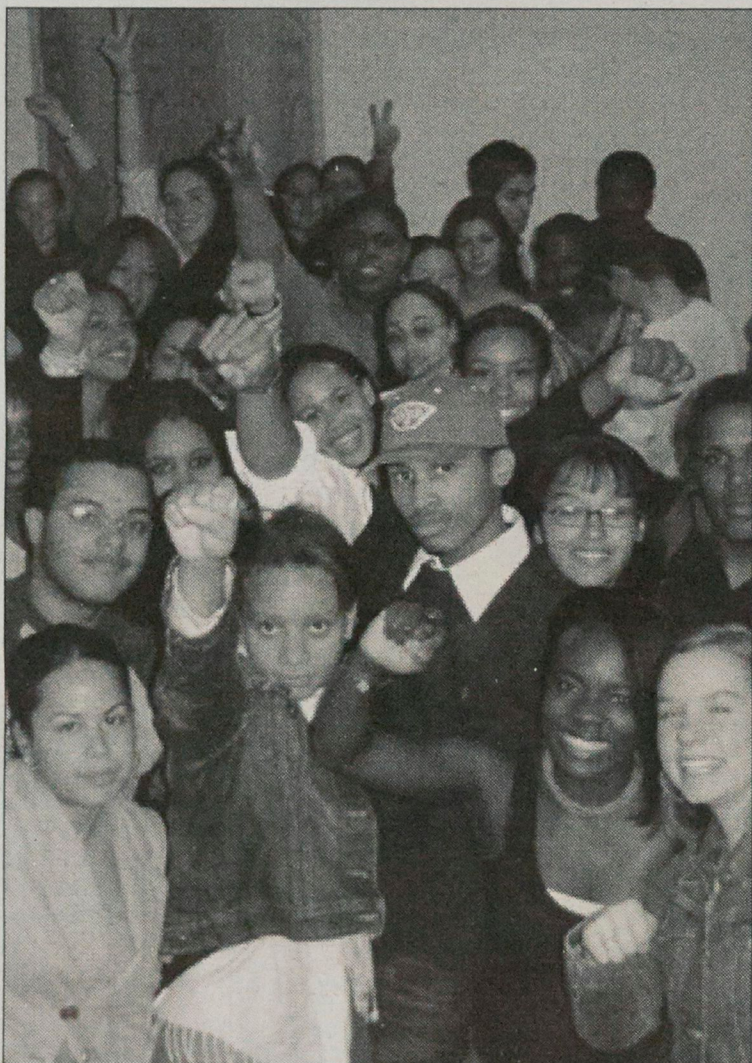
Likewise, the Frisbee team also claimed their advertising was mis-

interpreted. The Frisbee party was a registered event in Cook Commons and was advertised to friends of the Frisbee team via a phone message that was sent out on Friday afternoon, prior to the party. According to a transcript of the phone message that David Edleson, dean of Cook Commons, received, the phone message said, "If you come dressed as an Injun, you will be confined to one small reservation area of the party, where you will be forced to sit there and drink fire water. If you come dressed as a cowboy, you will be allowed to run around, do whatever you want and drink whatever you want."

Since party registration does not require the party theme, Cook Commons was unaware of the "Cowboys and Injuns" theme prior to Friday night. When the protest began on Friday night, however, Cook Commons Residential Advisor (RA) Kristin Weyman '04 contacted Edleson to discuss how to handle the situation.

"I made it clear that we did not have the right to shut the party down based solely on its theme, but that the protestors' right to voice their objections must be protected as well," said Edleson about his response on Friday night. "I also stated that neither side may verbally or physically harass the other, and the ensuring the safety of all was a top priority."

Edleson, as well as the Frisbee team, the protestors, the Mill and MASO, expressed a genuine desire to resolve these misunderstandings. "My sincere hope is that this will lead to an ongoing dialogue about the very difficult balance between protecting freedom of speech, while protecting those who have suffered discrimination and oppression," said Edleson.



Courtesy

Protesters rallied together before last weekend's Frisbee team party. A recent rise in controversial theme parties has drawn much criticism.

Jacobi presides over first SGA meeting

By Laura K. Budzyna
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday evening, only two days after the college announced the 15 election winners, President Andrew Jacobi called the first Student Government Association (SGA) meeting of the year. During this brief meeting, the existing cabinet members and senators introduced themselves and outlined their goals. Jacobi congratulated all the newly-elected representatives and clarified many of the procedural and organizational aspects of the SGA's responsibilities. The council elected Mike Vilarello '05, this year's IHC Senator, as Speaker

of the Senate. They also appointed Nura Suleiman '07, Jake Cohen '08, Mark Loper '06 and Isabel Yordan '07 to the Appeals Committee and Fil Marinkovic '08, Elizabeth Schaumberg '06, and Annie Williams '07 to the Impeachment Committee.

At the end of the meeting, Jacobi reminded the senators that, "It is also important to gather support for all legislation. SGA approval of a bill is a powerful, but it is also important to talk to the appropriate deans, cabinet members and the Community Council about actually implementing them."

Leslie Wade, the new senior Feb Senator, described the first

meeting as "relatively low-key," as they do not plan to discuss any new legislation until next week. On the agenda for the upcoming meeting is Middlebury's homecoming, President Liebowitz's inauguration and a bill on a shuttle program for breaks. Jacobi also hopes that President Liebowitz and a trustee will be present next week to discuss the Trustee Meetings.

Though the real business has not yet begun, first-year Senator Jake Cohen was impressed by the enthusiasm of the group. "All of the senators appeared to take initiative and to have a genuine interest in representing their respective constituents," said Cohen.



Julia Randall

SGA President Andrew Jacobi '05 (bottom left) poses with newly elected senators at Sunday's first meeting.

Carr Hall remodeled

Home of PALANA gets new look over break

By Andrea Gissing
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Over the summer Carr Hall, the home of the Pan-African Latino Asian Native-American (PALANA) Center, was renovated. After the final changes were made in the end of August, the interior of the building no longer resembles the health center and the offices of Public Safety, but instead provides spacious room for Office of Institutional Diversity administrator and faculty offices, a full sized kitchen and living room for residents and visitors and ample housing for PALANA residents on the second floor.

"Carr Hall is awesome, it's really cool," said Roman Graf, dean for Institutional Diversity and associate professor of German, speaking of the differences in the building. "The building is Carr Hall, PALANA is in Carr Hall with the Office for Institutional Diversity. It's the beginnings of an intercultural center, where faculty, staff and students who are all interested in diversity and intercultural issues are all in the building."

Residents of PALANA and the Office for Institutional Diversity have big plans for the newly renovated building. "The big open space, every Thursday at least, will have something that's called 'Afternoon Delight,'" explained Graf. "This is where we will have small readings or presentations by stu-

dents, faculty and staff on campus who will talk about their research or their passions to a smaller group of people."

"We would like to see the space used by as many people as possible," he continued. "Student groups can meet in the meeting rooms, we can hold dinners... I would like to see a lecture series that invites the New England dissertation fellows" — a program where PhD students in the finishing stages come to New England to visit the colleges and universities. The building is really a venue for students, faculty and staff to meet together to discuss issues in a more informal setting.

So far, Carr Hall has seen much activity. Its central location makes it the perfect stopover between the John McCardell Jr. Bicentennial Hall and the new library, and often students can be seen taking a break in the living room to catch up on some television. At night groups have gathered in Carr Hall's living room to plan meetings, count votes or arrange peaceful protests. "When I'm here I see more people who don't live in the house than those who do," said Graf.

PALANA's move brought the groups that used to be on the cam-

[PALANA is] the beginnings of an intercultural center, where faculty, staff and students who are all interested in diversity and intercultural issues are all in the building.

— Roman Graf,
dean for Institutional
Diversity

pus' periphery into its heart. "The academic interest house is not for students of color," explained Graf, "but it is for students that are interested in PALANA issues — the issues that concern people of different races and ethnicities living in the U.S. or internationally." Graf hopes that there will be interaction between the Robert A. Jones '59 House and Carr Hall, with "them being the international component to the national component, us."

Over homecoming weekend, Carr Hall will hold an open house on Friday, Oct. 8 from 5-7 p.m.

In with the VendingMisers, out with the noise



Newly-installed VendingMiser machines conserve energy and reduce noise.

By Christine Neeb
STAFF WRITER

If you have ever walked into a lounge for a late night study snack, or wandered into one of the far reaches of Twilight Hall or McCardell Bicentennial Hall, the seemingly spontaneous awakening of the vending machines might have surprised you. Not to worry, this is simply another creative, energy-reducing initiative of the Environmental Council.

Last spring, Farrell Vending Services equipped Middlebury College's vending machines with VendingMiser technology. This environmentally-friendly change came in response to a study performed by Middlebury students that demonstrated how much energy was wasted on machines kept on all day, even when they were not in use.

In spring 2003, Professor of Biology Helen Young, along with Mike Romankiewicz '03 and Dana Allen '04, headed the research team that tracked the wattage of various vending machines around campus.

They concluded that the

VendingMiser not only would reduce vending machine energy consumption by as much as 46 percent per year, but also would save the College as much as \$5000 on electricity over an 18 month period if the product were implemented on all vending machines around campus.

VendingMiser is attached to the vending machine, coupled with a motion detector. If there is no motion around the machine for a certain interval of time, the lights turn off and the cooling compressor slows, thus reducing its energy output. When the VendingMiser detects motion around the machine, the lights turn on and the machine returns to full power. In addition to saving money and conserving energy, VendingMiser reduces CO2 emissions by up to 50 percent.

Students around campus seem to support the environmentally conscious efforts. According to Sharai Lewis-Gruss '07, a member of Environmental Council, "The vending misers are a good way for the campus to enjoy the luxuries we have become accustomed to

while being energy conscious and environmentally responsible."

Professor Young, a member of the Middlebury Environmental Council, was prompted to start the study after hearing about use of the VendingMiser from a colleague in Buffalo, N.Y.

The research team received funding for the study through an Environmental Grant. President emeritus John McCardell appropriated \$25,000 per year to the Environmental Council's program for the purpose of funding such environmental initiatives as the VendingMiser study. "It is great that the school is supporting these types of initiatives," said Lewis-Gruss. "I hope they will continue to support energy consumption reduction efforts in the future."

USA Technologies, which manufactures the VendingMiser has reported use of EnergyMiser products on over 180 other college campuses. They expect that Middlebury's shift to VendingMiser is only the beginning, and that other campuses will install the environmentally friendly product in the future.

Fletcher House, the new social scene on campus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fletcher residents. Last Saturday, the house held a friend's 21st birthday celebration, open to the entire student body and financed entirely out of students' pockets. Hernandez also mentioned a recent barbeque hosted by the house in an effort to promote good relations with their immediate neighbors. The event cost \$100, comprising two-thirds of Fletcher's semester budget from Cook Commons.

Due to the small annual budget

"I've personally been spending about \$40 to \$50 for each of the three open parties, and another \$100 total for smaller gatherings."

— Patrick Leibach '06

allotted to Fletcher House, "we fund all [house activities] ourselves, and are all in support of opening our house to people we do not know," said Fletcher resident Joseph "J." Brito '06. Hernandez added, "Whoever hosts the bash is responsible for [the purchase] of any food, drinks [or decorations]."

While the birthday celebrations were primarily funded by the birthday boy and girl, Patrick Leibach '06 explained that the constant stream of parties and events can drain their pockets. "I can't speak to how much the rest of the house has thrown down, but I've personally been spending about \$40 to \$50 for each of the three open parties, and another \$100 total for smaller gatherings."

Fletcher House's reliance on self-financing draws a sharp contrast to the College's social houses, which receive considerable budgets

every year to host all-campus events. "School rules dictate that we cannot charge money for parties, which is a bit of a double-edged sword," said Leibach. "It makes sense that everyone on campus should be able to attend open parties without taking financial considerations into account. However, for smaller, 40 to 50 person gatherings, charging a nominal fee would make it much easier for us to host events more frequently without going broke."

Fletcher resident Alexander Demas '06 described the differences between his house and the College social houses. "I think the atmosphere here at Fletcher is entirely different than any of the social houses on campus. Perhaps it is because Fletcher is male dominated, making it much more like a fraternity. Also, we are a much smaller house than any of the enormous social houses, making the atmosphere much more tight-knit." Demas also described the relative freedoms afforded Fletcher and other small houses, as security does not have to monitor alcohol consumption.

"There is a much healthier scene here compared to the social houses," Hernandez said. "Social house parties revolve around drinking, but we just get together to have a good time. If that involves alcohol, then so be it. It's more of a family environment here." Hernandez further stated that in the house's five parties thus far, no student has been sent to the Health Center, a relative feat for late-night social house parties.

Demas enthused, "Hands down, Fletcher house is better than any social house. [Living here] is the perfect balance at Middlebury." Leibach concurred, "We pretty much get all the advantages of the social houses — monetary and noise issues aside — while getting to be a lot more laid back in the process."

Yet in its quest to provide students with another social outlet, Fletcher house has become the target of repeated noise complaints from direct neighbors, as reported in the Sept. 30 issue of *The Middlebury*.

Campus. Jeanne Van Order, Fletcher's next-door neighbor, is the most affected by the noise due to the houses' proximity. "It's an ongoing problem, and it's worse this year than last year. We can't have our windows open [when parties are going on]. We try to be understanding, but we do end up calling campus security quite often," she said. Much of the problem stems from the Van Orders' bedroom location, situated across a narrow driveway from Fletcher House's busy porch. And when there are not parties, according to Van Order, there is a constant stream of people and cars coming and going at all hours of the day and night.

Despite the Van Orders' stream phone calls to campus security and the Middlebury Police Department, little appears to have been done to alleviate the situation. "If we call in a

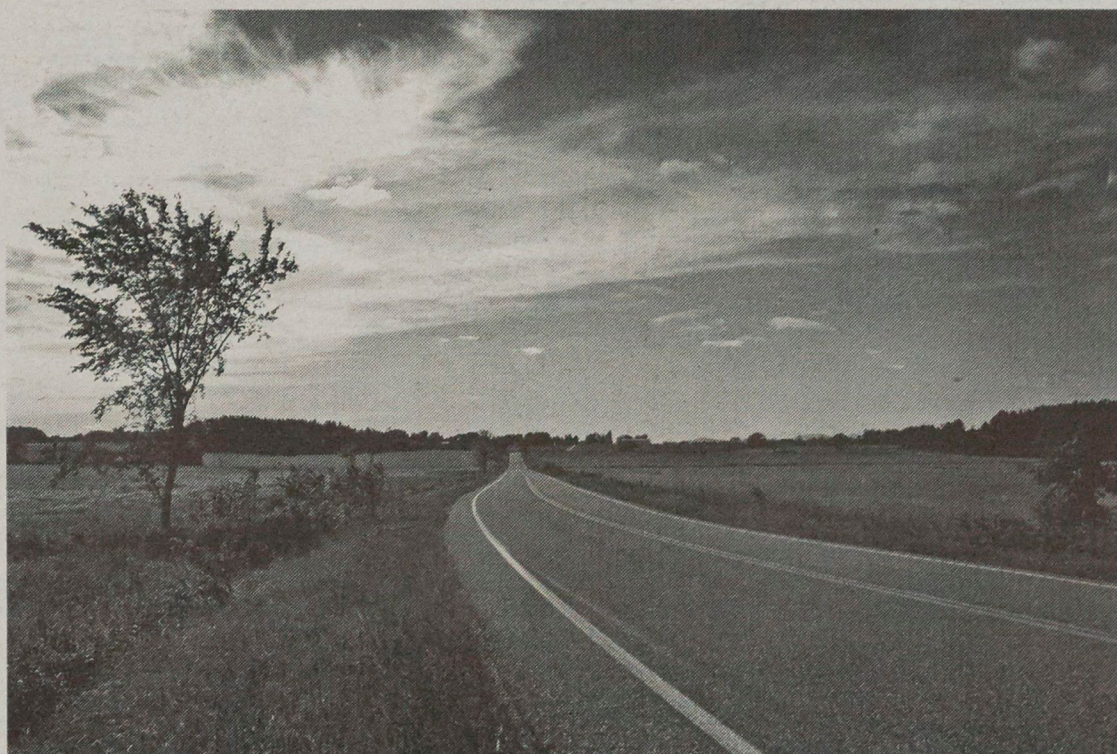
noise complaint, Public Safety chases people inside. This does not accomplish long-term results," Van Order said. "Even if we call the Middlebury police, they refer us to campus safety, which does not accomplish [a shift in residents' behavior and mentality]."

Fletcher house residents are indeed aware of the noise disturbances created by their parties and activities, largely due to the location of the neighboring houses, and have taken measures to curb noise levels. "It is difficult for us to avoid what's been happening, but we do our best to respect our neighbors. We understand that their concerns are legitimate, and we do try hard to be as quiet and respectful as possible" said Brito, who constantly monitors the house, shutting windows and lowering music as appropriate. "We have a pretty good relationship with our neighbors. We

have to be respectful of them as residents of the neighborhood, and they have to understand our needs as college students," added Hernandez.

Fletcher house has not always stirred such opposition among neighbors. Two years ago, the house belonged to the Pan-African, Latino, Asian and Native-American (PALANA) association, now centrally located in Carr Hall. "Fletcher was quieter as PALANA house. It wasn't as busy, and the amount of people coming and going was much less," said Van Order. She proposed the conversion of Fletcher into a substance-free house to solve the ongoing neighborhood noise tensions. However, the College's recent housing policy changes, which included the abolition of sub-free housing, make this an unlikely option in the near future.

ROAD TRIP



Andrew Cogbill

On the road, one student captures Vermont's peaceful atmosphere. With no cars in sight, the road seems endless under the clear, blue skies of a typical Vermont fall day.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY ALYSSA THURSTON

NYU seeks increased liberal arts standing

New York University (NYU) has recently begun a hiring campaign that it hopes will raise the national standing and stature of its graduate and undergraduate liberal arts programs. Over the next five years, the school plans to expand its 625-member arts and science faculty by 125 members, and replace another 125 who are expected to leave.

John E. Sexton, NYU's president stated, "The ambition here is to live out what it means to be a first-class university." According to Sexton, that plan includes not only adding to the current faculty, but also making the liberal arts program more of the intellectual core of the university.

NYU is developing a \$200 million budget to be spent immediately on the new professors in such area as offices and laboratories, while also raising an additional \$200 million promised from five trustees.

So far, the school has selected eight departments for its hiring campaign, including Biology, Physics, Mathematics and English. It plans to concentrate on fields where it can develop a name and build on existing strengths.

— *The New York Times*

Commission calls for CA university overhaul

In an August report, the California Performance Review panel suggested that the state's public higher education system should undergo a major reorganization. Under a mandate from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, members of the panel met to make recommendations on how to increase efficiency while reducing costs.

Among its recommendations, the commission suggested eliminating portions of the Cal Grant, the state's financial aid award for low income students. Under the plan, the state would replace the grant with fee waivers to be used at all University of California (CU) and California State University (CSU) campuses.

UC administrators expressed concern over the proposal. Said UC Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs M.R.C. Greenwood, "We are concerned that [the plan] may have significant unintended consequences for undergraduate student access to the university."

— UWire.com

Okla. student found dead at fraternity

Nineteen-year-old Blake Adam Hammon-tree, a freshman at the University of Oklahoma, was found dead on Sept. 30 inside the Sigma Chi fraternity house. University president David Boren said that drinking may have played a role in his death.

Hammon-tree had been staying at the house for a fraternity function the night before. Though the cause of death has not yet been determined by the medical examiner's office, Boren said that "It is my duty as president to reaffirm clearly that underage drinking and the violation of the university's rules and policies regarding the use of alcohol will not be tolerated." Upon news of the death, Boren immediately shut down the fraternity's operations on campus, and said he would close the house for the rest of the academic year within the next two weeks.

The incident is the third time in less than a month that a student has been found dead at a fraternity house due to alcohol-related causes. Nearly two weeks ago, Lynn Gordon Bailey Jr., 19, was found dead at the Chi Psi fraternity house at the University of Colorado following a party where heavy amounts of alcohol were consumed. Also last month, Samantha Spady, 19, was found dead at a Colorado State University fraternity house with a blood-alcohol level of 0.436 percent.

— CNN.com

Atwater construction continues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ally accommodating," said Gleason. "There really haven't been any complaints about this work, which is very understanding of them."

The Atwater dorms also provide a stronger incentive for seniors to continue living on campus, because they offer a more private and spacious living situation.

"Having the new dorms where they are will swing a lot of senior energy over to that side of campus," said Spears. "That area has become less isolated since [McCardell] Bicentennial Hall was built, and this will just continue that trend."

The construction of the dining hall is likewise delayed, and best estimates indicate that it will not be ready to open until well into Winter Term. Part of the reason is that dining services

will need an extended period of time to move in. The overall delay of the project also forced the contracting team to prioritize the different parts of the construction by immediacy.

The new dining hall will also help alleviate the current problem of overcrowding in the existing cafeterias. "Our hope is that this will be good not just for Atwater but for Ross as well, because it will allow traffic [in the dining halls] to even out," said Dean of the College and Professor of American Civilization Tim Spears.

Despite the complications thus far, those involved with the project are positive about the future of the new additions to Atwater Commons. Said Gleason, "We're getting everything we hoped for, only a little late." Spears agreed: "It's going to be really spectacular once everything is complete."



Andrew Cogbill

While construction can be heard, progress is moving slowly for Atwater.

Sixty college presidents to attend inauguration

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It is expected that more direction for the Brainerd-Wonnacott-Proctor project may come out of this weekend's meeting. However, Gleason noted that construction will probably not begin anytime soon. "As we are really still in the very early stages of planning for Brainerd-Wonnacott, it is very unlikely that any construction activity for Proctor will occur this academic year," Gleason said.

Aside from hearing building projects and orienting new members, the Trustees will largely spend their time on campus partaking in the Inaugural celebration. Following the presidential inauguration ceremony on Sunday, President Liebowitz and a trustee will attend the Sunday evening SGA meeting to speak with students.

In addition to the trustee meetings and homecoming events, the weekend will also see the dedication of the new library and the inauguration of President Liebowitz on Sunday afternoon.

The full schedule of dedication and inaugural events includes an Inauguration Concert

by Russian musicians Kirill Troussov and Alexandra Troussova, several performances by the aerial dance troupe "Project Bandaloop" and the Atlantic Crossing Band, an a capella Jamboree, an Inaugural Dance and Dedication of the New Library and Garden of the Seasons.

All the festivities lead up to the Presidential Inauguration Ceremony of incoming President Liebowitz, which will take place Sunday morning on the lawn outside the new library.

The ceremony, which begins at 11:30 a.m., will commence with a procession of approximately 60 college presidents and delegates from colleges across the country. The three Middlebury presidents emeriti, John McCardell, Olin Robinson and James Armstrong, will also be in attendance.

Participating in the procession on behalf of the town of Middlebury and state of Vermont will be Middlebury Select Board Chair John Tenny and Governor of Vermont Jim Douglas '72, respectively. Representatives of Middlebury's faculty, staff, administration, students, alumni and trustees will join in the procession as well.

The event will begin with greetings from each of the constituencies, including Williams College President Morton Owen Schapiro, who will speak on behalf of all the College Presidents. Following the greetings will be a speech by former Special Assistant to the Dean David M. Stameshkin. Stameshkin has written two books, "The Town's College" and "The Strength of the Hills," that cover the history of Middlebury College from 1800-1990.

Finally, Middlebury College Board of Trustees Chair Frederick M. Fritz '68 will conduct the investiture of Liebowitz, presenting him with the famous cane of Gamaliel Painter, one of the College's founders, and the presidential medallion.

The weekend has something in store for everyone. "I'm really looking forward to Bandaloop Project," said Daphne Lasky '07.

Although disappointed that the inauguration ceremony does not feature the incoming President doing aerial dance himself, Lasky was nonetheless excited about the weekend. "It sounds like a really unique event."

The Middlebury Campus

SEEKS STAFF WRITERS FOR
ALL EDITORIAL DEPARTMENTS.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION.

public safety log

SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 TO OCTOBER 4, 2004

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
9/30/04	2 a.m.	Harrassment	Telephone	Le Chateau	Open
9/30/04	8:10 p.m.	Harrassment	Telephone	Starr	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs
9/30/04	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Theft	Tennis Racquets	Proctor	No Suspects
9/30/04	8:30 a.m.	Vandalism	Adirondack Chairs	Trudeau Barn	No Suspects
10/1/04	10:54 p.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Atwater	Referred to Commons Dean
10/1/04	2:50 p.m.	Theft	Golf Clubs	Jewett House	No Suspects
10/2/04	10 p.m.	Theft	Headphones	The Mill	No Suspects
10/2/04	12:33 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	KDR	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs
10/4/04	1:30 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	The Mill	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs

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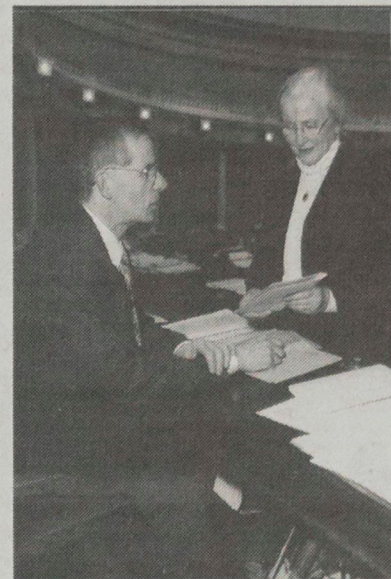
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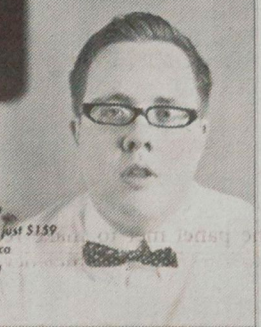
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localnews

All aboard! ACTR expands local service

By Polly Johnson
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Begging your friend with a car for a ride to the Snow Bowl is no longer a problem. This weekend, Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) is launching an expanded shuttle program that will provide free transportation to and from the Snow Bowl.

During the grand opening on Oct. 9 and 10, Middlebury residents and college students will get their first chance to test out the new shuttle routes. Busses will be departing from Adirondack Circle at 8:55 a.m., 10:25 a.m., 12:25 p.m., 2:25 p.m. and 3:55 p.m., and the first departure will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the first ride. The initial couple of days will offer not only several shuttle rides, but also prizes and fun. Prizes will include free gifts and, in addition, riders will automatically be entered to win door prizes including a season pass to the Snow Bowl or Rikert Ski Touring Center, Sunday brunch at The Waybury Inn, a one-night stay at the Courtyard by Marriott, ski gear from the Alpine Shop or a gift certificate to Sound Source.

After the grand opening this weekend, the shuttles will operate every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from Oct. 15 until Dec. 23. After this date, the shuttle will operate seven days a week until Jan. 30, before moving back down to four days a week (Thursday through

Sunday). The shuttle will begin its route at Adirondack Circle, travel through the center of town and then down Route 7, stopping at various hiking trails before making its way to the Breadloaf Campus and then finally to the Snow Bowl.

Jim Moulton, executive director of ACTR, noted that the "idea to expand our services actually came about during a discussion with Doug Adams, director of the Center for Student Activities and Leadership, back in January 2003." Explained Moulton, "Doug mentioned to me that his office had been responsible for organizing a ski shuttle from campus to the Snow Bowl each winter and that he was interested in 'getting out of the transportation business', if possible." Moulton then contacted the state Agency of Transportation to go about providing such a service, noting that many other shuttle services provide free transportation services to ski mountains such as Killington, Sugarbush and Stowe. Moulton received much encouragement from local residents, businesses and town leaders who responded positively to his vision. Many people also believed that the "service could have a positive economic impact on their companies." Furthermore, the idea proved popular among environmental groups "who saw it as a way to reduce the number of cars on the road," and parents, who "were tired of being taxicabs for their kids."

For an expansion plan of this



Andrew Cogbill

The ACTR shuttle stops at Adirondack Circle while making its daily rounds, which will soon include trips to the Snow Bowl.

magnitude, funding was an issue that had to be tackled before any further plans could unfold. With the support of the town behind ACTR, Moulton applied for a federal grant that funds public transportation services.

With the approval to expand, the federal grant provided 80 percent of the money, while the other 20 percent of the funding will come from the College and local donations.

All the shuttles will have donation boxes and Moulton is optimistic that riders will be generous in

helping this program be successful. ACTR believes that the donation system "enables the most dependent riders to use us to get to the critical services they need without cost becoming a barrier, while at the same time, providing the opportunity for riders with resources to voluntarily support the system. We have positive expectations that the riders on this shuttle will contribute to its operation."

With the new shuttle service up and running, it is time to get ready for ski season — even if you don't have a car!

Resumé wrongs rock Ready's race

By Katherine Doorley
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

A U.S. Congressional Representative from Oregon was convicted of fraud for lying about serving in the Korean War. Notre Dame refused to hire a football coach who falsified his resumé. Now Vermont's incumbent state auditor may lose her quest for reelection due to similar actions. Democrat Elizabeth Ready, state auditor of accounts, is accused of misrepresenting her educational background in biographies dating back to when she was first elected to state office almost 16 years ago.

As late as one week ago, Ready's Web site stated that she had "graduated from Rice Memorial High School, Burlington, Vermont; University of Vt. Burlington and Burlington College (B.A. Education); Norwich University, Northfield, Vt. (Masters in Public Administration)."

In fact, Ready only studied at the University of Vermont and Norwich University and does not actually hold degrees from either institution. Since being accused of misrepresenting herself, Ready amended the biography on her campaign Web site, explaining her time at Norwich University as "Master's Studies," while omitting all references to the University of Vermont.

Related misstatements regarding Ready's educational background

have been present in state publications since 1988 when Ready was a state senator. The Directory of State Officers from 1988-1996 lists a degree from the University of Vermont, and copies of the directory dating from 1997 until present list a Master's degree from Norwich University. In addition, two

nationwide directories, "Marquis' Who's Who in American Politics" and "The State Yellow Book," culled from state information, list similar educational information.

Randy Brock, Ready's Republican challenger, and Middlebury College graduate, for the position of state auditor in this year's elec-

tion, has sought to discredit Ready by calling attention to the misstated biographical information, indicating that these actions point to a larger pattern of unethical behavior. On his campaign Web site, Brock states, "Ethical behavior begins at home. The auditor must be free of ethical clouds and should set the example in both government activities and in personal affairs."

Brock has called upon Ready to step down from the auditor position until she explains why she chose to portray her educational background as she did. Ready has not responded to this challenge.

This is not the first time that Ready's actions have come under scrutiny for reasons of ethics. In 2002, it was discovered that Ready had charged approximately \$2,500 worth of personal phone calls to taxpayers — money that she later repaid.

Ready has received high marks from national review boards — including the highest possible rating of compliance with the standards set by the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers in their most recent review of the state's auditing practices.

Given that this most recent set of charges leveled against Ready are not directly related to her job performance, it is difficult to predict how they will impact the state auditor's race.



"Senator Elizabeth Ready is one of our own most consistent and effective defenders of Vermont's natural environment."

- Prof. John Elder
Middlebury College

ELIZABETH READY

Middlebury Campus archives

When she ran for state senator in 1996, Elizabeth Ready ran this ad in the Oct. 30 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*.

8
FREE RIDE!
SHUTTLE SERVICE
AUGMENTS
EXISTING ROUTES

9
**CONTENTIOUS
ELECTIONS**
CLAVELLE, DOUGLAS
HEAT UP POLITICS

10
**GOING TO THE
DOGS**
HUMANE SOCIETY
HOLDS FUNDRAISING
EVENT

Sparks fly in race for Montpelier

By Katherine Doorley
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

When the average American voter hears the phrase "contentious debates," the repartee between John Kerry and George Bush likely comes to mind sooner than Vermont politics. Yet this year's Vermont gubernatorial race has generated attack-heavy campaigning and heated debate from the Republican and Democratic contenders. Both candidates — incumbent Jim Douglas '72 (R) and Burlington mayor Peter Clavelle (D) — have attempted to portray their opponent as a radical, while presenting themselves to voters as the more moderate choice for governor.

The majority of the candidates' verbal sparring has taken place as a series of debates televised on Ver-

mont Public Television. Between early September and election day on Nov. 2, a series of 12 debates will pit Douglas and Clavelle against one another on issues such as the environment, healthcare, school choice, taxes and the economy.

In the debates seen so far, political commentators have generally agreed that Clavelle has come off as the "emotional and urgent" candidate, while Douglas' appearances have been marked by his well-known wit and dry humor.

Of the issues that have the potential to generate the most disagreement between the two candidates, healthcare choices have been the most visible and controversial. Douglas criticized Clavelle's healthcare plan as heavy on promise and light on realistic solutions, running

It's time that we create a comprehensive, coherent system that will provide healthcare to all Vermonters at a price that they can afford. The solution is not in the market.

— Peter Clavelle, Democratic candidate for governor, commenting on Governor Douglas' healthcare proposals

a series of critical television commercials lambasting Clavelle's plan. If elected, Clavelle says he plans to widen the pool of insured Vermont residents by tapping \$90 million worth of costs "from the system," an arrangement that Douglas characterized as being a glorified tax.

Striking back, Clavelle has argued that Douglas' plan — which involves increasing taxes on insurance companies and using these additional revenues to cut costs and implement new tax incentives — would require the market to reduce healthcare costs themselves. Clavelle said, "It's time that we create a comprehensive, coherent system that will provide healthcare to all Vermonters at a price that they can afford. The solution is not in the market."

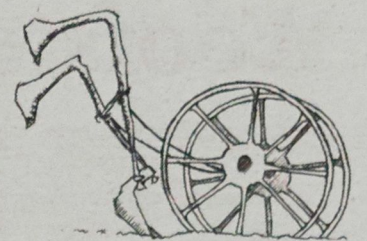
Regardless of where they stand on the issues, both candidates have spent much of the campaign attempting to portray themselves as moderates and their opponent as a radical. The Vermont Republican Party, in an effort to raise support for Douglas and bolster its claims that Clavelle is a radical leftist, has distributed newspaper articles dating from 15 years ago that describe Clavelle as having marched in support of the radical left-wing Sandinista group. Douglas supporters also highlight the fact that Clavelle was a member of the Progressive party until he switched his allegiance to the Democratic party in order to run for governor.

In response to these allegations, Clavelle has emphasized the fact that while he does hold certain liberal

positions, such as a pro-choice and pro-environmental stance, he also maintains an interest and concern in the health and future of small businesses and emphasized the success of small businesses in Burlington during his tenure as mayor. "Burlington's downtown bucked national economic trends, and vacancy rates remained low. The Church Street Marketplace continued to be one of the most successful pedestrian malls in the United States," Clavelle asserted.

Clavelle also attacks Douglas' claim that he is the more moderate of the two candidates, often commenting during the debates that Douglas is close enough to the Bush administration — an administration that has never been hugely popular in Vermont — to be the chair of the Vermont branch of President Bush's re-election committee. In defending his record as a moderate, Douglas emphasizes his positions as a pro-choice Republican and his support for minimum wage increases, as well as his willingness to sue the Federal Drug Administration in an effort to begin importing low-cost prescription drugs from Canada.

With a little less than a month remaining until the elections, both candidates are in a race to boost their own image, while casting doubt on their opponent's record. If previous debates and exchanges between the two men have proven anything, it is that even in a state as small as Vermont, this election cycle is going to be one of the most hotly contested in recent history.



Rural Banter

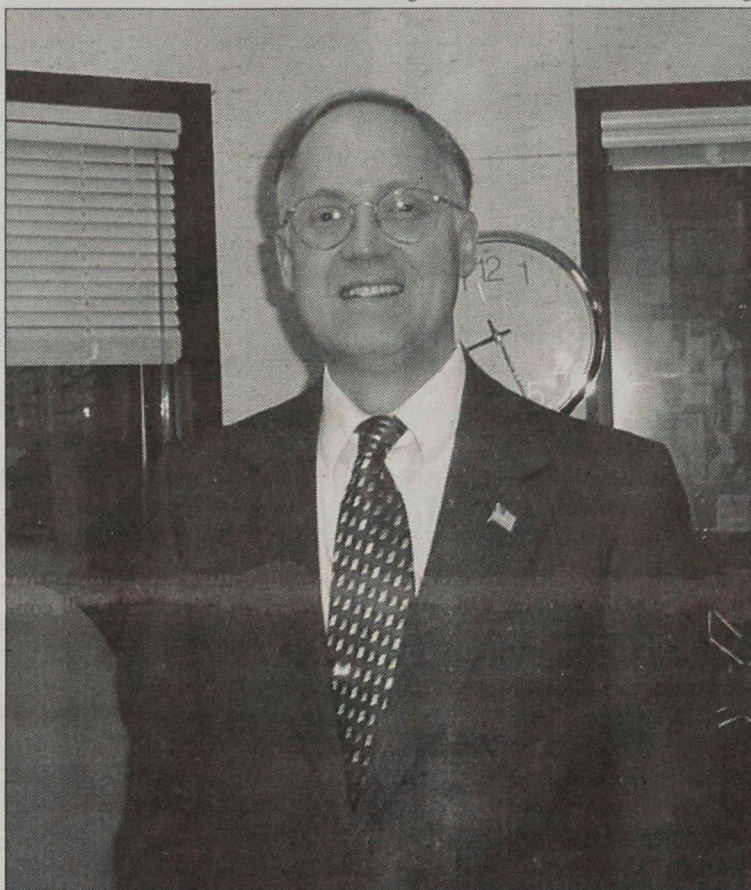
BY ERICA GOODMAN

I was running with a friend down the dirt road beyond Porter Hospital one day when all of a sudden we came across a smashed corn stalk. We paused a moment to look down at the poor plant splayed out in the dust. My friend poked at the corpse with her toe. "Road kill," she sighed. "No," I shook my head. "Plant kill." We both laughed, more at our utter ridiculousness in being so fascinated with a maimed cornstalk than at my corny joke. Yet this was not the first oddity I have faced in my running sneakers this semester. What I have recently discovered is that venturing off of the cross-country trail can be quite an adventure.

One sunny Sunday afternoon I was running down Route 30 and, being a small-town girl used to deserted paths, was quite scared by the excessive traffic zooming by. So, I picked a side road to venture down. A quarter mile in was a fork in the road — to the left was a lane of ordinary houses, but to the right, a tree-lined dream. I, of course, took the shaded path. A few paces in, there was a sign — "PLEASE WATCH FOR PUPPY" — with a little smiley face. How cute, I thought. A beautiful path and a cute little furball. A moment later, the "little puppy" jumped out from behind a tree — except he wasn't little, he had a not-so-little furry friend and both were baring their teeth and barking. I spun around, sprinting as fast as I could, but the beasts were gaining on me. Would these ferocious canines devour me? Well, since I am not writing this from a ditch, I luckily escaped.

Since quiet, deceptively peaceful roads turned out to be dangerous, I decided to try out the Trail Around Middlebury (TAM). I left one Saturday afternoon, intending to do the loop through the Battell Woods. I made it past the College baseball fields, over the shaky jungle bridge and to the forest beyond the Middle School fields. Yet, after passing the same cancerous tree a number of times, I realized that I might be a little lost. Instead of just turning around, I, having spent my childhood surrounded by acres of empty forest, arrogantly resolved that I could navigate my way out. I took a different bend and ended up sprinting through a field of burdock and nettles before returning to face the same lumpy tree. I felt like I was on Endor, half expecting to see some Ewoks jump out of a tree to chase me. Finally I found a path that looked like it might take me somewhere away from the trees. Emerging from the woods, I found myself on the set of "Leave It To Beaver" — cookie cutter houses, white-picket fences, kids riding around on their bikes. Did I go through some time warp? A few laps through the neighborhood and I finally found my way to town and back in the present time.

Like good old Robert once said, taking the road less traveled has definitely made all the difference. Well, at least it has been more exciting.



Courtesy

Governor Jim Douglas eagerly awaits the upcoming debates.



VERMONT by the numbers

1,713: The number of operating dairy farms in Vermont.

1,262,155: Number of acres of farmland in the state of Vermont.

22.7: The percentage of people in Vermont aged 18 and over who are current smokers according to a 1999 study.

5: Average percent of Vermont high school students who do not graduate.

10: Tons of manure that a 1,000 pound cow produces each year.

1830: The year that Chester Alan Arthur, the 21st President of the United States, was born in Vermont.

Sources: strollingoftheheifers.com and "The Vermont Census Report"



Courtesy

Gearing up for the final push, Peter Clavelle continues his campaign.

Woofstock festival sets local tails a-waggin'

By Andrea Gissing
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Middlebury's normally tranquil atmosphere was broken Saturday, Oct. 2, with the riotous barking of dozens of dogs gathered together with their owners on the Town Green. Despite grey skies and the threat of rain, almost 150 people and lots of happy dogs came together to take part in the Addison County Humane Society's (ACHS) fundraiser, "Woofstock."

Executive Director of the Humane Society Jill Tucker described the event as a success. "I think people really enjoyed the music, the dog agility course, the 'Dancing with Dogs' presentation and the ever-popular 'Dig like a dog for prizes' game."

The shelter received a great deal of assistance from the community to organize and staff this fundraiser. Tomm Triplett, a former ACHS board member, ran the "Dig like a dog" booth, a post he has manned for the past three years. In addition, local dog owners collected pledges for the dog walk around town, raising over \$3,000 and Jade Blodgett, a nine-year old resident of Shoreham, organized a raffle by herself, going around town to solicit prize donations. Peg Cobb's Hand-in-Paw Freestyle dance class, "The Rhythmic Paws," did a demonstration in which owners waltzed or can-canned with their canine partners to Joplin's "The Entertainer" and Cindy Lauper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." This was the duets' second time performing in public, and though the dogs became easily distracted by the interesting smells around them, their tails wagged enthusiastically as they danced. Dancing with dogs is another form of training, and Peg Cobb, in introducing the act, emphasized the fun nature of the routines, saying that dogs enjoy dancing just as much as people.

The biggest laughs of the day came from the "Silly Pet Trick Contest" and the "Dog-Owner Look Alike Contest." Mango, a golden

retriever, won the silly pet trick prize by demonstrating his ability to stare at a treat and wait patiently until his owner gave him the command to eat. Scott Pierce Calhoun, a one-year old silky terrier and his owner Barbara Calhoun from Ludlow, Vt., won the look-alike contest, due to their similar hair coloring. Prize winning beagle, Lucky, demonstrated his expertise on the agility course with his owner Tina Doughty. Other dogs tried to follow Lucky's example, however had trouble navigating the poles and making the jumps.

"I think people really enjoyed the 'Dancing With Dogs' presentation and the ever-popular 'Dig like a dog for prizes' game."

— Humane Society
Director Jill Tucker

The event raised about \$6,500 after expenses, which will go towards feeding, treating, housing and providing general care of the dogs and cats at the shelter. "It costs quite a bit to house all of the animals and we have bills to pay for veterinarian services, spay and neutering, supplies, maintenance, utilities and, of course, staff time to give the shelter a full cleaning every day and to care for the animals," Tucker said.

Where fundraisers like Woofstock often have the greatest effect is in raising awareness of their sponsors. "Even if people don't attend the event," said Tucker, "the fact that the event is marketed in newspapers, radio and through direct mail reminds people that we are here and need their support."

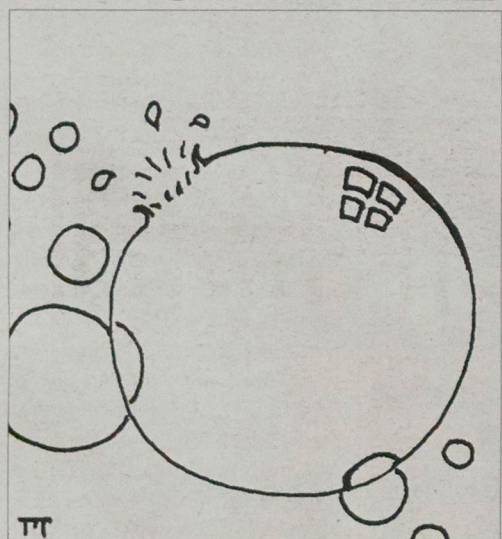


Sixiao Huo

TOP: Excited pet owners enjoy the show at Woofstock.

BOTTOM: Two dog lovers take a break from the festivities to spend some quality time with one of the dogs.

BEYOND THE



BUBBLE

BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN

Claire decided to be a jetsetter and spend the weekend with Priscilla and Chris (who, for some reason Lisie always accidentally calls Scott, sort of like she always calls Clint Eastwood Frank Lloyd Wright) Nielson in Boston. Hence, Claire and Lisie were apart for over 72 hours. This is the longest that they have been apart from each other since, err, well the time Lisie ditched Claire on the Cape. This week's Beyond the Bubble, therefore, follows the Mehlman clan in their latest endeavor.

As it was parents' weekend, Markandbar were visiting. Mark and Barbara, Lisie's parents, are quite the characters, and Markandbar is their screen name. As Lisie has a weird obsession with nicknaming everything, she has taken to referring to them as Markandbar. One entity — many pairs of reading glasses. The weekend was quite lovely, and come Sunday they decided to go on an antiquing expedition in the surrounding Vermont areas. Antiquing is to Markandbar as watching "Alias" is to Claire and Lisie. Some might call it strange, perhaps a sick obsession. They prefer to call it a hobby. As antiquing on an empty stomach is ill advised, the Mehlmans first dined at Burdick's Country Kitchen, the subject of a Beyond the Bubble excursion last year. However, this time around the eating experience was far less pleasant. The waitress yelled a lot. Markandbar are the kind of people who often ask to "speak with the manager" at restaurants. While the brash and rude nature of the waitress

was not appreciated, the French toast was quite tasty.

No longer hungry — actually, that's a lie... Lisie was still starving after they left — the crew set out to satiate their appetite for good old antiques. On the way, Bar insisted on driving through Bristol, Vt. since she had heard rave reviews about the town. So, the familial unit decided to take a minor detour, which developed into an extensive detour with Bar holding the map. That is a very dangerous situation. You see, Lisie has inherited some of her, um, less favorable traits from Bar, including but not limited to her inability to read a map, practice self-control whilst in public or at fancy restaurants and cook. Upon (finally) arriving in Bristol, the Mehlmans were sad to see that the antique shop was closed. This was not because it was a Sunday afternoon. Instead, there was a note posted on the door, reminiscent of a certain note posted in "Old School." It explained, "We are closed for reasons beyond our control." So, on we went.

Next stop — Dick Adams' Collection Antiques. When Lisie, using her investigative skills, inquired as to the name of his store, Dick himself called it Dick's Junkyard — a much more fitting name. The store had a horribly musty smell and its collection of antiques was rather sub par. Mark noticed an English saddle, but all Lisie saw was garbage. Old plates that were chipped sat next to old, ratty, torn jeans. These weren't hipster vintage jeans or

torn jeans circa '95 (when torn jeans were cool) and Bar objected to buying them for Lisie's older sister on principle. Mark, at this time, assumed his fatherly role and explained to Lisie that antiquing is hit or miss, and for every hit you are bound to have many a miss. Oh, Mark.

Thank goodness for the Middlebury Antique Center. Now this, friends, is the pinnacle of antiquing here in Vermont. There were lots of nice — and pricey — items to be had. Markandbar admired and purchased college paraphernalia from their old university days. Lisie was most intrigued by the wonderful garden gnomes for sale. She also enjoyed perusing the aisles of old wooden kitchen furniture, beginning the pre-planning stages of the creation of the perfect kitchen for her perfect suburban house. Bar, however, came upon a hidden treasure. She found old postcards of Middlebury from 1913. This was, apparently, a pre-Gifford era, we are sad to admit. These now grace the walls of the smallish rooms that Claire and Lisie inhabit.

All in all, antiquing was quite the success. Sometimes it is tricky deciding what to do with the parentals. For Lisie, it provided ample bonding time with Markandbar, so we suggest considering it as a fail-proof activity during the upcoming family weekend. We recommend steering clear of Dick Adams' Junkyard, however, unless you are in the market for an English saddle.

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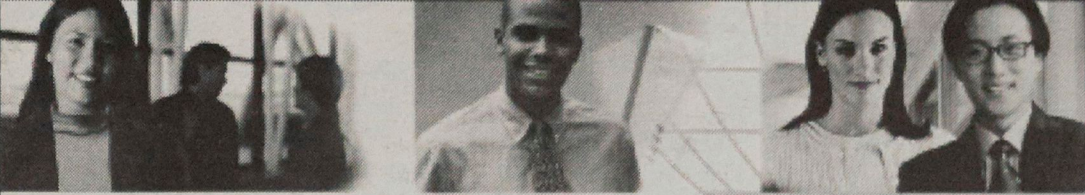
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Editorial

Celebrating Awareness

Middlebury College promotes itself as an institution that celebrates diversity of all kinds. Statistics given in the College prospectus boast the number of countries represented by the student body, minority student organizations hold a place of prominence in on-campus life, and Midd-kids frequently proclaim their own open-mindedness. Yet, every so often the College is reminded that despite our "awareness" of diversity issues, thoughtlessness can go a long way towards alienating others. Tolerance is not a passive practice, but a daily experience in a community as diverse as Middlebury.

Last weekend Middlebury College experienced two separate incidents during which student groups inadvertently offended members of the College community by holding racially and ethnically-sensitive theme parties.

One, a party hosted by the Ultimate Frisbee team on Friday night in Pearson's lounge, invited guests to come dressed up as a cowboy or a native American in the spirit of a "Cowboys and Injuns" theme. The other party, hosted by residents of The Mill and also held Friday, was labeled "Asia: the continent" and guests were encouraged to "wear a little Asian and rock with us."

While it seems that both parties were conceived in harmless spirit, many students, particularly those of minority background, were outraged by the themes. The terms of the Frisbee party as dictated in a voicemail invitation — that those dressed in "injun" costumes would be allowed to stand only in marked "reservations" while those dressed as cowboys would be allowed to circulate freely around the room — were considered to be particularly tasteless and offensive. The Mill's party theme, which was interpreted by some to mean, "Bring an Asian," caused further indignation when guests noticed condoms lying out on display. While members of the Mill have pointed out that condoms are in plain view at all of their parties, objectors thought that the condoms were directly related to the party theme and made reference to prostitution.

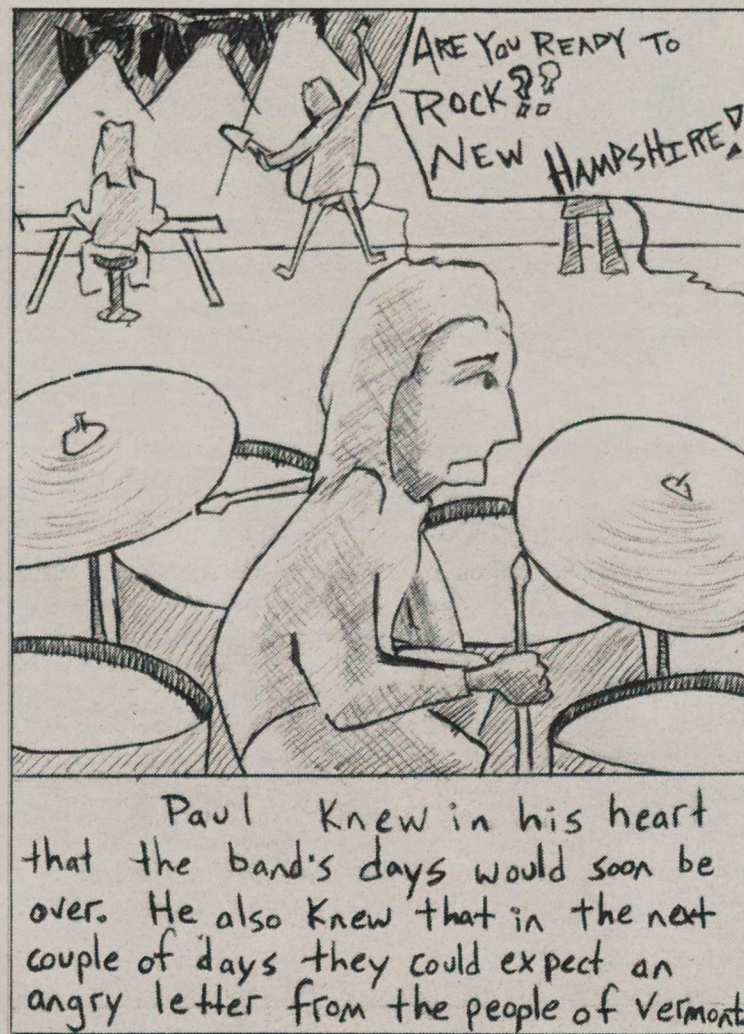
Student objectors quickly rallied together on Friday night and in the days after the party to express their complaints. A group of students teamed up to protest the Frisbee party while it was still in progress. After speaking with protestors, party organizers quickly changed the theme and suggested that those in costume go back to their dorms to change. E-mails were exchanged back and forth between members of the Middlebury Asian Students Organization (MASO) and the organizers of The Mill party, in a makeshift forum for complaints and explanation of the original party intention.

Though the organizers did not set out offend anyone or any group — Frisbee parties are notorious for themes where the guests dress in costume — the themes elicited strong negative response.

Though parties are held in the spirit of fun, Middlebury students sometimes forget that it is difficult to give someone the benefit of the doubt when it comes to questions of difference and diversity. While most Middlebury students are open-minded and tolerant, this may be difficult to distinguish when disguised by a flippant attitude about issues of race and ethnicity. In the past, Middlebury has been plagued by acts of hate, not just pertaining to race but to many different forms of difference. While sensitivity to this history may not be a part of our daily thought process, this weekend reminds us of how far Middlebury has come. Students should be applauded for respectfully generating a dialogue about the events of this past weekend and the issues they raised. Only by communicating with each other on these significant issues can we put diversity in its proper place — out in the open.

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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.



By Daniel Houghton

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

With regard to your article about the candidacy of Tabby Connor '05 for the State House of Representatives — it is of course a wonderful thing that young people like Tabby are getting involved with public issues. However, you did not mention that Tabby and fellow Republican Dean George are running against Middlebury's current representatives, Democrats Betty Nuovo and Steve Maier. Nor did you explain how the various candidates differed on important issues that may come before the legislature this coming year.

I hope you can do articles on all the Middlebury candidates who are running for the state legislature, so that students who register to vote here in Middlebury have a chance to understand the very real differences between these two sets of candidates. Maier and Nuovo should also have a chance to explain what they would like to achieve in the legislature and what they think they have already accomplished.

Best wishes,
Ellen Oxfeld
Professor of Sociology & Anthropology

To the editor:

I would like to address two factual misrepresentations that I noted in last week's paper. In Hans Manzke's article "title here" about my CD release, he said that I was going through both financial and creative hardships. In fact, I was not going through a creative hardship, and I would like to clear up this fabrication. As well, he took a quote out of context in the assertion that I had said there is a balance between the intellect and raw emotion — in fact I said this only in reference to the subject dynamic I have noted as my repertoire has expanded. I may not be a journalist, but I'm fairly sure that one of the golden rules is not to fabricate your facts. I suggest that before Hanz graduates from Middlebury, he should reconsider his career path if he intends to pursue journalism.

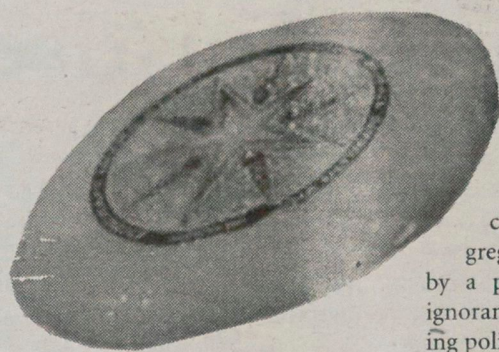
Sincerely,
Jennifer Schneider '07

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Students protest party

Something terrible and something beautiful happened on Friday night, Oct. 1, 2004. I was informed of a phone message sent out by the Ultimate Frisbee team advertising a party to take place in Pearsons. The message said,

"This is a message from the official party captain. Yo guys, it's _____, just calling to remind you that the party will be held in Pearsons lounge tomorrow night starting at nine. You may all dress up as either cowboy or Injun. But be forewarned, if you dress up as an 'Injun' you will be quarantined to one small reservational section of Pearsons and be forced to sit there and drink your firewater, while the cowboys enjoy their (word not clear here) wherever they please. Have a good night, see you tomorrow and don't get vodka poured down your throat."

I was absolutely outraged at the explicit racism of this message and began to organize, along with Alexis Zain '05, a meeting in my suite to bring together people who would be willing to crash and protest the party. It turned out to

be more than 30 equally outraged students that were largely people of color. There we were, congregated in solidarity, united by a passionate anger over the ignorance on this campus, becoming politicized in a dorm room. As a senior I have NEVER witnessed such energy in my four years here. The apathy which I have so become accustomed to identifying this campus with was dismantled before my very eyes.

We entered Pearsons lounge and the music stopped. We saw students dressed in cowboy hats as well as a significant number in feathers, bare chests and face paint. There was a moment of tension as we took in the surroundings and processed the obvious contrast — a mass of people of color standing together and about fifteen white students on the other side of the room.

One party-goer yelled, "Hey, turn the music back on." ReNard Rogers '07 went to the D.J. booth and began to speak. He said we were here in protest of the racist party theme and that we wanted the people in charge of the party to either call it off or change the message and educate those who came in as to what had occurred. He also said that it was embarrassing that students, at an institution like Middlebury College, could be so inconsiderate

and ignorant about this country's disgusting treatment of Native Americans and make light of it with a party theme. A Native American student who grew up on a reservation spoke next and expressed her pain and anger at the message regarding the firewater comment, speaking about the real and very traumatic presence of alcoholism on reservations. After she was done we filed out and stood on the steps continuing our protest and telling party-goers what we were doing. People involved with the party came out and expressed their concern and agreed to make



people take off their costumes and inform them of the extremely ignorant choice of a party theme. What followed next does not need to be recounted in detail but it involved a series of confrontations with groups of students and the protestors engaging in conversations about what was happening. People made comments like, "Don't you have something better to do with your

time?," "What does it look like- the minorities against the white people!," "I know Indians, this is just a joke" or "I'm not a racist." Such comments only expressed the lack of understanding and engagement in the issue. The phone message showed they did not care about the pain, anger, and GENOCIDE that took place during the founding of this nation, in which people were systematically pushed away and killed.

The fact that the event was so clearly racialized (students of color protesting, white students going to the party) is equally disturbing. It is not about the minorities against the white people — I would have LOVED for more students from the party and from the Frisbee team to have stood with us in solidarity (shout out to Shuffles who stood with us in the cold ALL night). But instead what we encountered was either disrespect of our presence, anger or complete apathy.

To the students who were there with us — I am honored to have spent my Friday night with you all and I hope this event and its aftermath will begin forums of discussion on the very real ignorance and apathy on this campus.

STEPHANIE MORALES '05
A WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES
MAJOR
FROM QUEENS, NY.



NOTES FROM THE DESK

I began work organizing the presidential election spread in this issue several weeks ago with the intention of highlighting several unique aspects of this contest that would have special significance to Middlebury students.

I know that many of us have been following the proceedings daily, and some may be thinking they've had enough of being bombarded by politics. I also know now as a result of our election poll that still others on this campus don't seem to have much interest in this election.

What we have to say to you in these pages about what happens on Nov. 2 — whether you're sick and tired of politics or couldn't give a damn in the first place — is important. Open your eyes and your mind, take a look at what your fellow classmates have to say about issues important to them in this election. Bother your friends as to how they can possibly still be undecided about who to vote for (approximately 11 percent of the student body). Discover what chance you have of being drafted to go fight on a faraway battlefield.

Use these poll figures to spark discussions (how many Republicans are there *really* on this campus?) and congratulate seniors Sam Wilson and Andy Rossmeissl on their voter registration efforts.

I know how easy it is to sink into the warm, comforting arms of political apathy when you're beleaguered by take-home exams and those 250 pages to read for Monday — but hey, take a study break, turn to the election spread, and read an article or two.

This stuff is relevant whether you like it or not, and it's not going to go away if you don't vote. So get out there, vote for what many of you will be the first time of your life, and be a part of history.

NICOLAS EMERY '05
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Pranksters regret offensive theme

To the members of the Middlebury College Community:

The Middlebury Ultimate Frisbee team would like to formally apologize to the student body for its party theme last weekend. This past Friday, the team held an open campus costume party with the theme "Cowboys and Indians." As an organization, we frequently dress in costume for tournaments, parties and sometimes even for practice. For us, this manner of dressing is indicative to the nature of this team — fun loving and open-minded. We've dressed as superheroes, Scots, prom queens, drag queens and flare queens. You will see us in the dining halls wearing pink shirts, striped socks, shorts that are too short, dresses, ripped clothes and anything else we feel like wearing that day without a care of what others think. We write this not to tell you that we are carefree in our ways or to excuse our actions, but

to highlight our open-mindedness and our acceptance towards others along with everything they bring to the team as an individual.

Friday night's party was intended to be a costumed gathering to bring us together for an enjoyable evening with a common theme. It was not intended to suggest a period of genocide and hatred in American history that we find necessary to celebrate, nor do we consider native cultures to be a topic that bears ridiculing. We chose this theme for the potential it had for costumes without enough concern for where those costume images come from and what impact they have.

The party title and theme were inappropriate. We sadly admit being negligent with this. We know that this apology cannot take away the pain that a number of you felt last Friday, but we are trying to do the best we can to rectify our wrongdoing.

Our aim was not to insult or harm anyone on this campus and the fact that we hurt even one person greatly saddens us. The voicemail that was left for the team was in no way an indication of how the party was aimed to be run, but instead was mocking the stereotypes which have evolved surrounding the misrepresentation of Native American society. Unfortunately this subject hit too close to home for some people and again we apologize for the harm it caused you. We now realize that such topics should at all times be taken seriously.

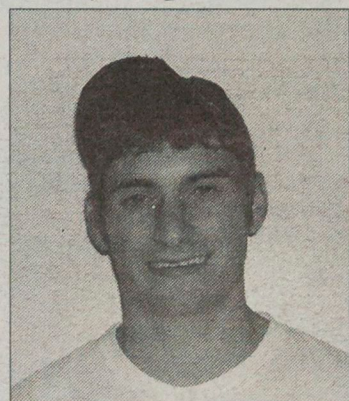
Hindsight is a powerful tool and we wish we could change what has happened. That being said we hope that the student body can accept our most sincere apology.

JOHN "SHUFFLES" HANLEY '04
PARKER DIGGORY '04.5
CHARLIE BETIGOLE '05
CHRIS FARINA '05.5
JOEL CULBLEY '05
MEGAN HICKEY '06
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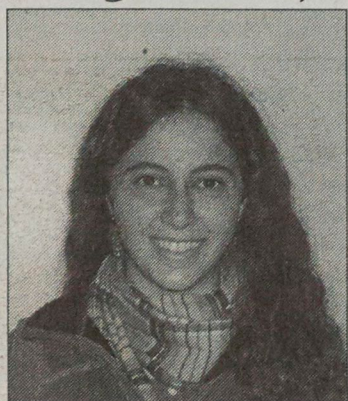


The Middlebury Campus online poll



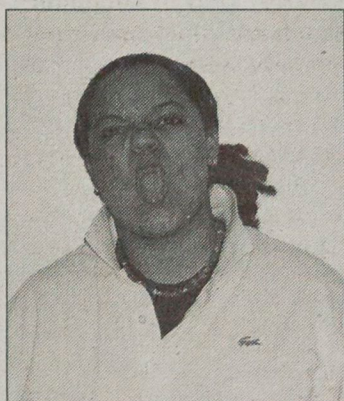
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—AARON COLODNY '08



YES, IT'S REALLY EASY. YOU JUST
DROP SOMETHING IN THE MAIL.

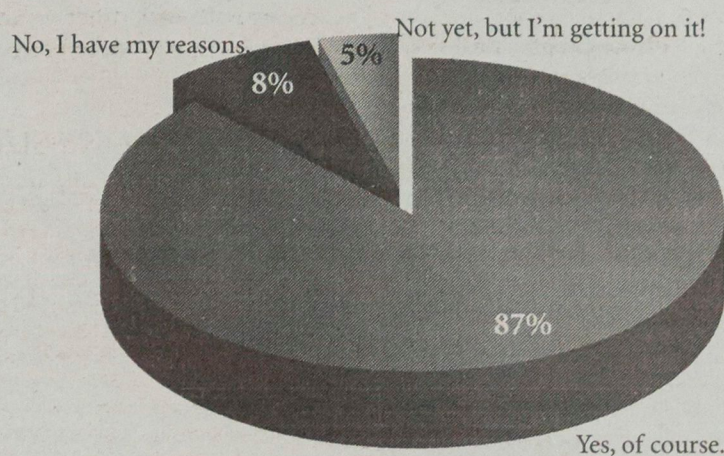
—ALLI GLASSIE '08



YES, I'M REGISTERED TO VOTE.
AND I'VE SERVED JURY DUTY
MORE TIMES THAN I'VE VOTED.

SAKAI TROXELL '05

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?



Results based on 79 responses collected between Sept. 29 and Oct. 6 at www.middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: DOES FALL BREAK SEEM TOO EARLY THIS YEAR?

Party presents chance to learn

As an administrator and professor at Middlebury College it worries me deeply when I see theme parties on our campus that are demeaning or hurtful to people. Unfortunately, the beginning of this semester has already witnessed its share of such events.

The theme "School Girls and Naughty Professors" does not have to be spelled out, and a "Cowboys and Injuns" party clearly demonstrates at least a lack of sensitivity on the part of the students who sponsored the event. Referring to Native Americans as "Injuns" conjures up negative sentiments. When the invitation to the event actually elaborates on these sentiments by stating that "if you come dressed as an Injun, you will be confined to one small reservational area of the party where you will be forced to sit there and drink fire water" the organizers have created an atmosphere that is outwardly hostile to Native Americans.

The administration at Middlebury College clearly does not condone theme parties of this nature. However, rather than closely monitoring every student event, it encourages students to manage their own affairs in an intelligent, mature, and respectful manner. A large group of students, many of them affiliated with AAA, the PALANA and the Posse programs, showed us last weekend how this can be accomplished.

When they heard of the "Cowboys and Injuns" event, these students chose to meet and discuss a plan of action. They decided to treat the organizers of the event with respect and explain why the party theme was offensive. Considering the incident "a teachable moment," they went to the party, asked for the music to be turned down and explained their position. Consequently, the hosts changed the theme of the party

and most of the attendees removed the costumes they were wearing. The protesting students remained outside the building and informed everyone entering the building of the offensive nature of the event. Although the discussion was sometimes heated, it never became physically confrontational.

Kudos to the students who confronted the hosts, but also to the stu-

Kudos to the students who confronted the hosts, but also to the students present who recognized their poor judgement and changed their behavior accordingly.

dents present who recognized their poor judgment and changed their behavior accordingly. I hope that in the future student groups put more thought into the themes of their parties and become more aware of the power of language!

In order to foster dialogues on diversity issues, the Office for Institutional Diversity now features a discussion blog. To participate, visit <http://mt.middlebury.edu/midblogs/cokoh/Diversity>.

ROMAN GRAF
DEAN FOR INSTITUTIONAL
DIVERSITY

College falls short of justice

A recent article in last week's Campus described the plight of one student in the face of a justice system that is in serious need of revision. Those who have spent several years at Middlebury know that there are several policy questions that seem to never go away: alcohol rules, driving restrictions and even sexual assault reporting. Each year, hundreds of students question the rules, but few have taken time to re-examine the actual system of justice that enforces the carefully scrutinized laws that govern our community. Last week's article was poignant not only because many of us, myself included, believe the woman's cry of innocence, but also because it reminds us all how ignorant we are to the proceedings that we are all eligible to face. We must not forget that a "guilty" verdict in Middlebury's quaint little arbitration system is tantamount to a career death sentence for those students who wish to become doctors, lawyers, professors or business people. It is our duty to question this fundamentally flawed system.

The major flaw with Middlebury's so-called "justice" is that it is not transparent in the slightest. Complete transparency is nothing short of a pre-requisite for justice — the latter cannot exist without the former. It is very rare for a judicial decision to reach the ears of the Middlebury masses. When students do learn about a hearing, it is typically through underground sources or rumor. This is problematic for at least two reasons. The first is that people can bring charges against their students or peers without assuming the responsibility that an accusation implies. If a teacher is certain that a student has plagiarized, enough so that he or she is willing to ruin that student's career, then that teacher should be willing to confidently stand before the entire community with those charges. Will this hurt the

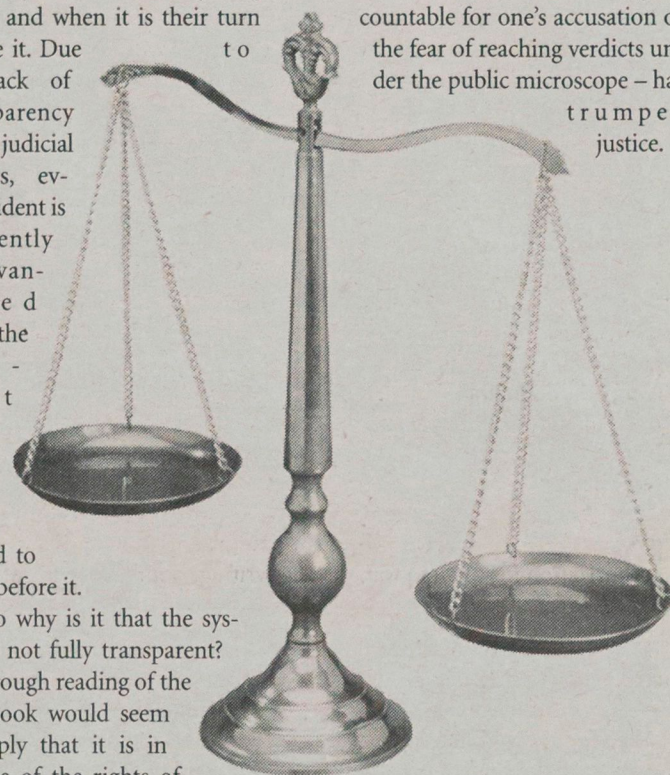
professor's reputation? Perhaps. If he or she brings charges against students on a regular basis, then maybe some Midd-kids will think twice before taking that professor's class.

The second need for transparency is rooted in the public's right to understand how students are tried. Even though the rules of arbitration are public knowledge, this does not suffice. There is a lot more to a court proceeding than the rules of engagement. Students have the right to know the tone that the arbiters will likely take in addressing them, the type of evidence that is typically cited and other key details that one must witness in order to fully understand. The vast majority of Middlebury students have no concept of what a judicial hearing is like, and so every single one of them will inevitably be blind-sided by the process if and when it is their turn to face it. Due to the lack of transparency in our judicial process, every student is inherently disadvantaged from the moment he or she is summoned to come before it.

So why is it that the system is not fully transparent? A thorough reading of the handbook would seem to imply that it is in defense of the rights of the accused. This is obviously absurd. Was a lack of transparency to the benefit of those who were arrested by the Gestapo or the citizens of

Renaissance Venice? While students should have the right to request a discreet trial, they should also be given the choice of having a very public one. This would allow all students to decide for themselves how fair our judicial system can be.

Some will counter this point in the name of the students who arbitrate, but again, such a notion is absurd. Those students who are inclined to sit on the judicial board and potentially ruin the lives of their peers should be willing to do so in the light of day — or else they are unfit for the position. In short, total transparency at the request of the accused hurts nobody — if a professor is not confident enough in their accusation to sit before the public, then he or she should not push forth a charge. Unfortunately, it would seem as if cowardice — the fear of being accountable for one's accusation or the fear of reaching verdicts under the public microscope — has trumped justice.



BRYAN GOLDBERG '05
AN ECONOMICS MAJOR
FROM LOS ALTOS, CA.

Yellow wears out welcome

John Kerry's doing it. Dubya's doing it. So is U2's Bono, Olympic gold-medalist swimmer Michael Phelps and that girl in your dorm whose style is definitely more Posh than Sporty. And Sheryl Crow is obviously doing it.

They are among the millions of Americans sporting LIVESTRONG bracelets, those ubiquitous yellow bands that swept the nation over the summer and continue to encircle wrists around the country and at Middlebury, symbolizing both support for Lance Armstrong's cancer research fundraising efforts and discerning eye for fashion. My own father, no Armstrong but an avid bike rider nonetheless, brought me one such bracelet when he visited this past weekend, and the casual possession of one of these curious novelties led me to wonder about them.

For those of you without the bracelet, you most likely fall into one of two camps. 1) You could be one of the unlucky fools who wanted a bracelet, but were just too slow on the uptake to actually acquire one or 2) Whether you spent your summer staring at a computer screen or lazing by a pool, you somehow didn't notice the national phenomenon that is LIVESTRONG. You're kicking yourself now for not jumping

on the accessory trend, obviously the biggest thing to happen in bracelets since those of the snapping variety were all the rage back in first grade.

Or possibly, like me, you find this whole yellow bracelet business not only boring and faddish, but also slightly disturbing.

First of all, I support the cause of the bracelets. Armstrong's foundation has raised millions of dollars for cancer through not only the bands, but hats, t-shirts and other LIVESTRONG gear. That is extremely admirable and shows not only the power of Armstrong's celebrity, but the extent to which Americans relate to and empathize with his amazing story and that of so many others.

But from a fashion standpoint, the bracelet itself is highly disappointing — stretchy and yellow with some words cut out. I don't know what I was expecting, but it certainly wasn't a glorified rubber band. It doesn't match anything I own and it definitely clashes with the delicate silver bangle I just picked up at Frog Hollow. There's another huge problem with the bracelets: when do you stop wearing them? As fall officially settles in and our fading tanned wrists are covered by sweaters and cuffs, the bright bands would seem to be passé: an accessory for warm

days, trips to the beach, tank tops. Although diehard Armstrong fanatics or serious activists would say that you never, ever, ever take the bracelet off, let's be realistic here kids.

My feeling that the trend will fade soon was reinforced by a story my mom told me this weekend. When she was in high school during the Vietnam War, all the stores were selling sterling silver bands engraved with the name of a POW or MIA American soldier. The bracelets were cheap, and soon she and all her girlfriends were wearing them all the time, and vowing to never, ever, ever take them off. To make a long story short, she lost the bracelet by '74, and has long since forgotten the name of her soldier.

So sport the yellow for now and live strong while you can, because I give the trend two more months before everyone loses interest. Maybe we'll see an influx of those evil warding, red-string Kabbalah bracelets favored by Madonna, Britney, and Demi and Ashton. Who knows. But as for me? I'm bringing the snap bracelet back.

MEREDITH KERNAN '05
AN ENGLISH MAJOR
FROM HINGHAM, MA.

Students show apathy for SGA

When I asked a group of my friends if each of them had voted in last week's election for student senators, I expected to hear mixed responses. To my surprise, all seven replied in the negative. Don't get me wrong — I am well aware that the typical Middlebury student is apathetic towards the school's Student Government Association (SGA). Face it — if you're not on the SGA, you really couldn't care less who represents your class or what they do. In fact, when student senate election time came around last week, you probably only voted if a friend of yours was one of the hopeful candidates.

Nevertheless, considering how easy it is to vote (all you have to do is click on the link in the email from the SGA — I mean really, if they made it any easier they'd be doing the voting for you) and how many reminders are sent, I thought that a decent chunk (maybe half) of the student body would vote for the two students who would represent their own class. I don't know what percentage of students did in fact vote,

but if my small survey is any indication, I was far too optimistic about the voter turnout for this election.

Now since I obviously asked only a tiny percentage of my class if they voted, I can by no means be sure of this claim. The reason I feel I can make this claim, however, is that the group of friends to whom I posed the question is made up of "typical" Midd kids. None of them is involved in student government, and for one reason or another, not one of them voted.

My purpose is not to make those who did not vote feel like they are just "typical" students whereas those of us who did vote are somehow unique. Rather, I hope that after reading my take on this issue, the non-voters make the effort to have their voices heard next time around. Middlebury claims to have an active student body. I challenge the students to prove it.

DAVID SCHOENHOLTZ '07
AN UNDECIDED MAJOR
FROM BETHESDA, MD.

A conservative voice speaks out

Forget Kerry's war record — he's got better stats to study

What bothers most people about John Kerry is not that he opposed the war in Vietnam and not that he opposed Iraq. What bothers most people about John Kerry is that he turned his back on his brethren in Vietnam. We really do not care about Kerry's war record — he served his country, and we commend him for that. What was disgraceful about Kerry's post-war record, however, was that he turned his back on his brothers in arms. By testifying before the Senate and disclosing valuable information, Kerry ultimately sold out many of his military brothers who were murdered and tortured in POW camps protecting these secrets. He also helped to destroy troop morale and turn many Americans against our own troops.

He sought higher glory for himself, rather than thinking about his other countrymen. However, let's just set aside John Kerry's war record, because it doesn't really make a difference anymore — we know he lied about issues such as Cambodia.

All of that aside, what has John Kerry done? This man has spent over 20 years in Senate and has nothing to stand for, has no redeeming qualities, and cannot make up his own mind on any issue. In fact, Kerry has the worst voting record in the Senate, having missed 92 percent of all votes. However, he did make it to the Senate to vote for authorization for the Iraq war.

This is the man who (he also mentioned this at the debate) stated that it would be inhumane for anyone to vote against the money necessary to fund the body armor our troops need, and then voted against it. This is a man who voted for the war in Iraq, and then decided that he didn't like it. This is a man who said that the President was not putting enough emphasis on issues such as Saddam Hussein, and then criticized Bush's actions. This is a man who claimed that Bush diverted his attention from Afghanistan (the 'real' war on terror) and then in the same breath chastised the President for not being more forceful with North Korea. No wonder we call him "flipper". Most democrats, in fact, seem mildly upset that John Kerry is their candidate. In fact, according to Ann Coulter's article "Parlez vous Political Free Fall?" in *The New York Times*, the promised land of liberal writing, about 40 percent of

Kerry's supporters actually like John Kerry, the majority of them simply do not like Bush.

The Democrats' arguments are outdated and archaic. They worry more about garnering votes than about taking an actual position. Their arguments are always the same, "You Republicans are too close-minded." Well, if Democrats are so open-minded, why can't they be more open to our close-mindedness?

Now, let's address President Bush. This man was president for about nine months when one of the greatest tragedies in the history of our country occurred. This man did not waiver — instead, he took the tragedy in stride and took the fight to the terrorists' doorstep. Months later, CIA, British MI-5, Russian Intelligence and FBI intelligence came to Bush and stated that Iraq posed a real threat to the

United States and the world.

This President, having witnessed the deaths of three thousand Americans, had a choice to make. He could either sit back and say, "I'm not so sure I want to follow up on this," or he could say, "I've already seen three thousand innocents die at the hands of ruthless terrorists, I don't want to see any more innocent deaths on our soil." Bush 'unilaterally' (with the alliance of 30 different nations) made the decision to remove a ruthless dictator and stop crimes against humanity in Iraq. We know that Saddam Hussein ordered the rape and murder of his own people, tortured them unmercifully and even used chemical weapons against them. We know that he breached UN resolutions by possessing SKUD missiles. We know that he was in himself a weapon of mass destruction. George Bush made an unbelievably tough decision, and whether you agree with him or not, at least you know where he stands. I ask liberals all the time, "If you don't agree with Bush's position in Iraq, what's John Kerry's?" The most common response — "I don't know." You see Middlebury, that's the problem.

ANDREW CHAMBERS '08
AN UNDECIDED MAJOR
FROM PITTSFORD, NY.



Sam Says
A Political Commentary
By Sam Wilson

Tomorrow night will bring us the second debate between President Bush and Senator Kerry. As last week's debate's theme was foreign policy, tomorrow night's will be domestic issues.

Because of the topic of the debate, the President will have a more difficult job. Americans generally trust Democrats more than Republicans on domestic issues. Also, the President must appease his Religious Right supporters, but also appeal to moderate "swing" voters.

At the Convention in New York City, the campaign initially angered social conservatives by giving the prime time speaking slots only to more moderate Republicans, such as Mayor Giuliani, Senator McCain and Governor Schwarzenegger. The plan was to show a happier, more tolerant side of the GOP. But, the campaign caved to conservative pressure and added Senators Frist and Santorum, as well as House Speaker Hastert. Tomorrow night, which side of the President will show up — the compassionate conservative or the religious conservative?

Furthermore, this debate has added importance after last week's debate. The President had hoped to finally decapitate the Kerry campaign with foreign policy, and thus make this domestic debate superfluous. Instead, Kerry won the debate, jumped up in the polls and the Bush campaign took a brick to the stomach.

Further complicating the President's position is the fact that the September's employment figures will be released on Friday as well. In August, the Labor Department reported that 144,000 jobs were created in August, not what we would hope for, but okay. Predictions for September are expected to be less, around 140,000 jobs created, not enough to lower the unemployment from its current 5.4 percent.

On social policy, the President is even weaker. His plans on stem-cell research are unpopular, but his conservative Christian backers are adamant about it. However, Kerry should be careful. The science is still a long way off, and unfairly demonizing the President here could backfire.

The Federal Marriage Amendment will be another issue that will test the President's ability to satiate the hard right while appealing to "swing" voters. While the President can say it's an attempt to preserve the sanctity of marriage, the amendment is nothing more than an attempt to write discrimination into the Constitution, and is the moral equivalent of banning bi-racial marriage. If this issue had anything to do with the sanctity of marriage, the President would close Las Vegas drive-through wedding chapels, crack down on dead-beat parents and ban schwill such as *Trading Spouses* and *Wife Swap* from television.

He has to be careful tomorrow, his job prospects for the next four years depend on it.

Kerry remains the obvious choice

While reading my Middlebury Campus Email Edition, I found myself intrigued by the title "Kerry Lacks Compelling Platform," by Ryan Hisner. I always find "Kerry isn't better than Bush" articles interesting. Who is the author? A Republican? A frustrated progressive? Possibly a nihilist, er... Nader supporter? What I find interesting about the article is that there is only one positive statement to be found, and that is to call Kerry "adequate" on the environment.

I am tired of having people tell me that Senator Kerry is "Bush Light." That's like calling apples "oranges light." Here's why you should make sure that John Kerry gets elected.

If you care about a woman's right to choose, vote for John Kerry. You can kiss that right goodbye if George Bush gets the opportunity

to appoint two or more Supreme Court Justices. It almost happened in 1992, when Justice O'Connor cast the deciding vote to uphold *Roe v. Wade*. If you don't mind the women you care about losing that right, by all means, vote for Bush. Kerry is not fond of abortions, but he recognizes that it is not the government's place to tell women what to do with their bodies.

If you care about the environment, vote for John Kerry. Kerry is not merely "adequate"; he has a lifetime rating of 92 out of 100 from the League of Conservation Voters. You want some perspective on that?

When he ran in 2000, Al Gore had a rating of 68. As you read this, there is an island off the coast of Alaska whose residents have lived there for centuries, and are now being relocated (at a million dollars a person) because the island is almost submerged. I'm not making this up. It is for real, and it's the future of our world under men like Bush and Cheney. Care for some mercury with your salmon?

If you care about

John Kerry. Premiums have risen over \$3,500 under Bush's watch, not including the 11 percent increase slated for next year. Doesn't bother you now? Wait a few years. In his convention speech George Bush affirmed how important it is for Americans to "honor our seniors." Less than a week later, he "honored" them with a 17 percent increase in Medicare premiums. Meanwhile, prescription drug companies see their profits skyrocketing. Kerry will offer all Americans the same health care plan available to members of Congress — and he will lower premiums by \$1000 in his first year. Don't believe that? Check out the prices in Canada, from which Kerry plans to allow imports.

If you care about education, vote for John Kerry. Like it or not, Kerry supports the No Child Left Behind Act. The difference

between the two candidates' positions is simple: Bush supports the act in principle, while Kerry actually supports funding it. Now I'm not a big fan of the Act itself, but I have a hunch that our educational system will turn out a lot better if we pay for

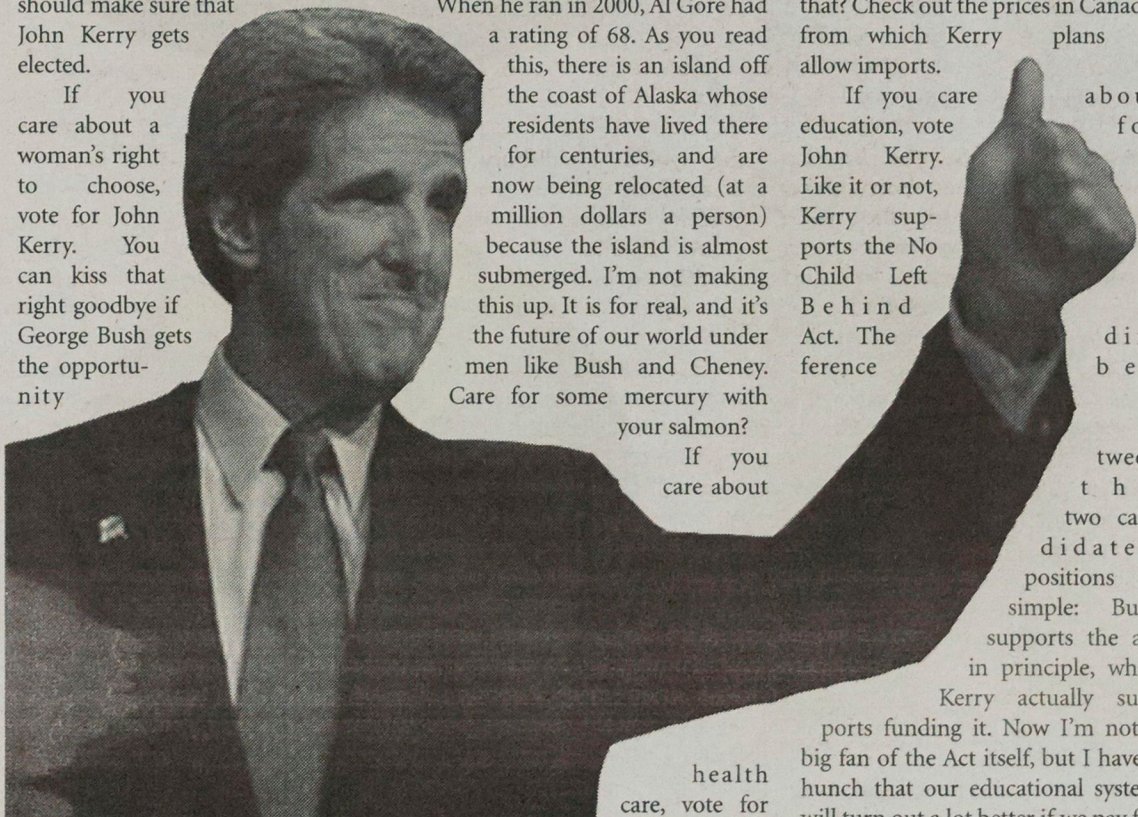
the things we're mandating.

If you support the separation of church and science, vote for John Kerry. On Sunday I watched Michael J. Fox (who has Parkinson's Disease) score two goals in a Bruins alumni hockey game. He spent the next day stumping for Senator Kerry, because for him and others, research is the only hope. The reality is that every day George Bush is in office is a day farther we have to go before finding a cure for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and certain kinds of cancer. He has put a ban on 99.99 percent of stem cell research funding. Can it be a surprise to anyone that 48 Nobel Prize-winning scientists have endorsed John Kerry?

Like it or not, we are going to see one of two outcomes on November second. Behind door number one, we get four more years of President George W. Bush, and forty more years of his radical right-wing priorities enforced by the Supreme Court. Behind door number two, we get four to eight years of President John F. Kerry and a chance to take our country back in the right direction again. Kerry is not perfect in my mind, nor in the minds of most of his supporters. But I worry that many of us, like Ryan, sometimes allow the perfect to become the enemy of the good. Please do not do so on November second. Vote for Kerry, and get us out of this mess.

Next up... why Kerry is the better choice on National Security, and could there actually be a draft?

MICHAEL YEDINAK '04.5
A STUDENT WORKING FOR DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA
FROM WESTFORD, MA.



election2004

College approaches crucial election

Students nationwide demonstrate unprecedented interest

By Megan E. O'Keefe
MANAGING EDITOR

With this year's presidential contest billed as one of the century's most crucial elections, Middlebury students are tuning in to the Bush-Kerry battle with unprecedented intensity. Secretary of the College and Professor of Political Science Eric Davis observed, "I see more interest in the election this year than in any year since I joined the faculty in 1980."

Middlebury students' outstanding attention to the presidential race mirrors a nationwide trend of exceptional engagement in this year's campaign by college-age students. According to the *New York Times*, "After dismal turnout by young voters in 2000, surveys this year show that interest in the election among the young is near the highest level it has reached at any time

since 18- to 20-year-olds were given the vote in 1972."

An accompanying jump in the number of registered voters in the youngest age bracket is largely seen to be the result of a post-Florida perception shift regarding the significance of a single vote, as well as determined efforts by non-partisan and partisan groups to attract youth to the voting booth.

While interest in the 2000 presidential race was less marked on Middlebury's campus than current activity, recent awareness is characteristic of intense student engagement in the Florida Supreme Court challenge, following the 2000 election. Commons Residential Advisor (CRA) Sarah Jones noted, "The College was especially tuned in after the whole Florida scandal happened. [During] every dinner and lunch, the TV lounge outside of Proctor was filled with students trying to figure out what was going to happen, which lengthened the entire political debate happening on campus."

The current near tie in the race between Bush and Kerry — with some national polls giving Bush as little as a one percentage point lead over Kerry after last week's presidential debate in Coral Gables, Fl. — has further heightened student activism at Middlebury. "Students see the election as very close, so every vote counts," Davis explained.

It is partly this outlook that motivates student activism and political discussion on campus despite the general perception that a

majority of Middlebury students support Democratic nominee Senator John Kerry over Republican nominee President George W. Bush.

Olivia Katz '07, who was among the members of the College Democrats who distributed Kerry-Edwards buttons in Ross Dining hall on Tuesday night, said "The majority of people who have walked through the door have taken a pin, but I think that it's a lot more evenly split than people think."

Vice-President of the College Republicans Ashley Timidaiki '07 echoed Katz's sentiments, saying "The commonly held stereotype that most of the campus supports Kerry is just speculation really. I think that [Republicans] may be a lot shyer about coming forward."

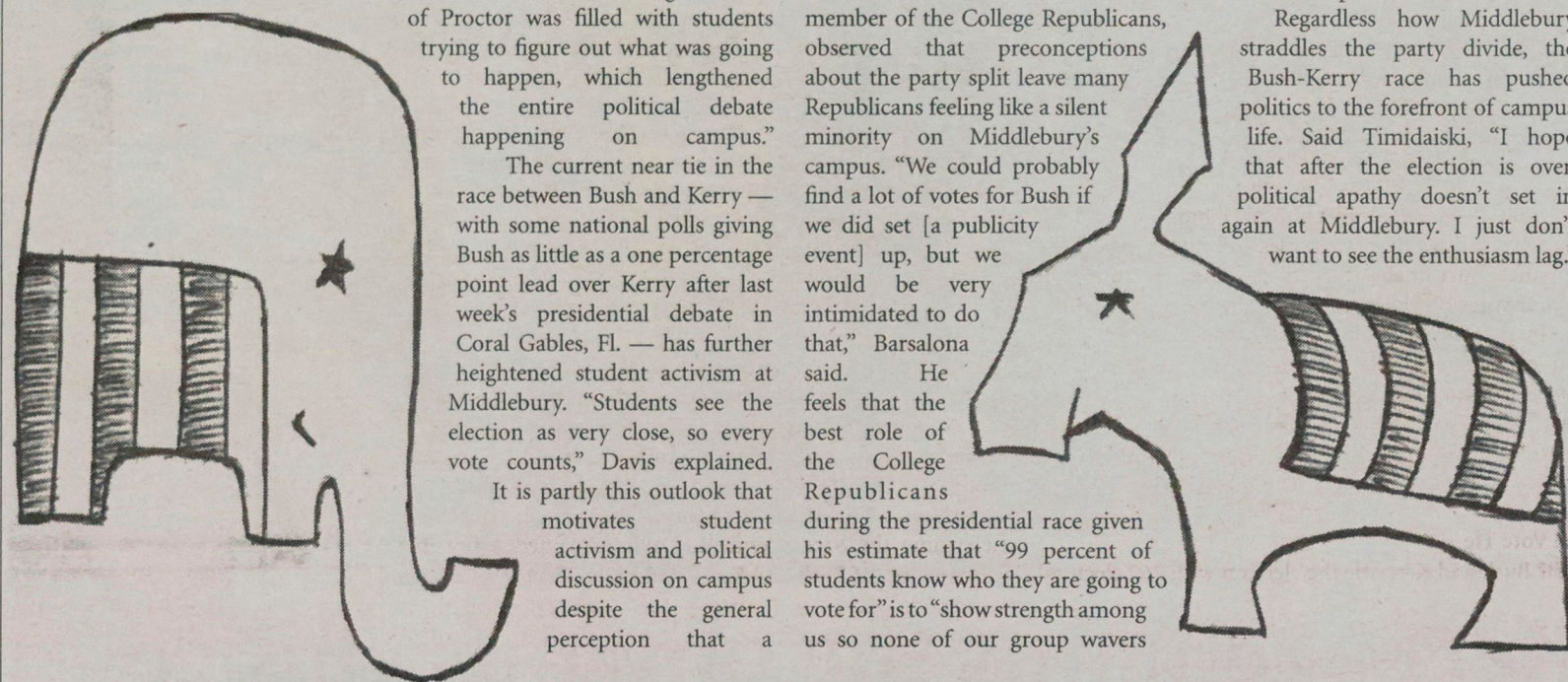
Regardless of the actual numbers of student Republicans and Democrats, Joe Barsalona '07, member of the College Republicans, observed that preconceptions about the party split leave many Republicans feeling like a silent minority on Middlebury's campus. "We could probably find a lot of votes for Bush if we did set [a publicity event] up, but we would be very intimidated to do that," Barsalona said. He feels that the best role of the College Republicans during the presidential race given his estimate that "99 percent of students know who they are going to vote for" is to "show strength among us so none of our group wavers

due to this pressure on campus."

While College Democrat Rachel Sommer '06.5 acknowledged that many Middlebury students may already support Kerry, she noted that a lot of them may not have absentee ballots. "There are so many people here from key battleground states," said Sommer, speculating that visibility for the Kerry cause may encourage students — especially those from states where the electoral college contest is still up for grabs — to vote.

While they may not convert voters, College Republicans hope to stand up for their party during the presidential debates. "We're just out there trying to correct the information. We hope to really put through some effort in the debates," Timidaiki said. Both College Democrats and Republicans have scheduled events around the televised presidential and vice-presidential debates.

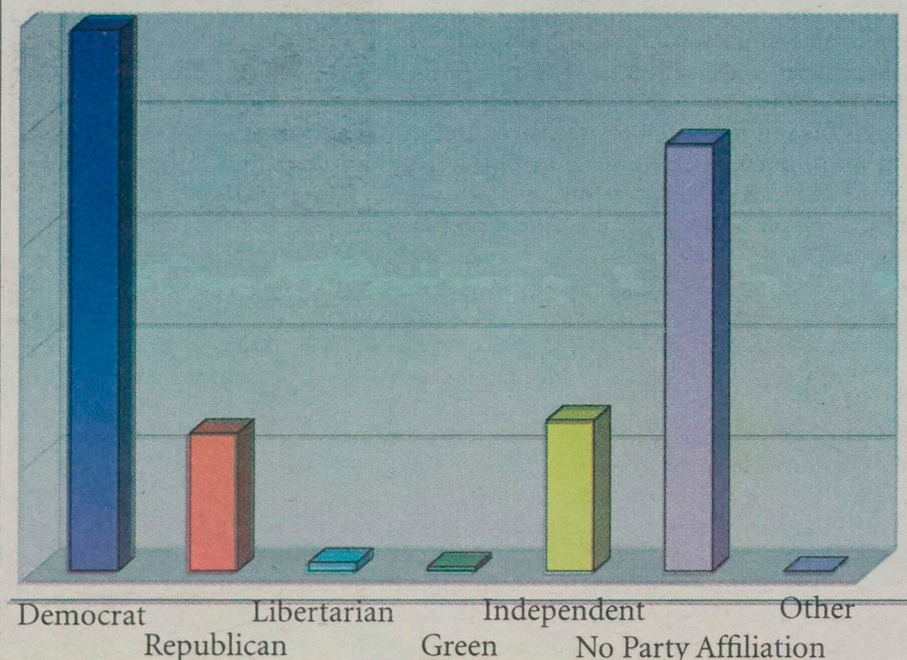
Regardless how Middlebury straddles the party divide, the Bush-Kerry race has pushed politics to the forefront of campus life. Said Timidaiki, "I hope that after the election is over, political apathy doesn't set in again at Middlebury. I just don't want to see the enthusiasm lag."



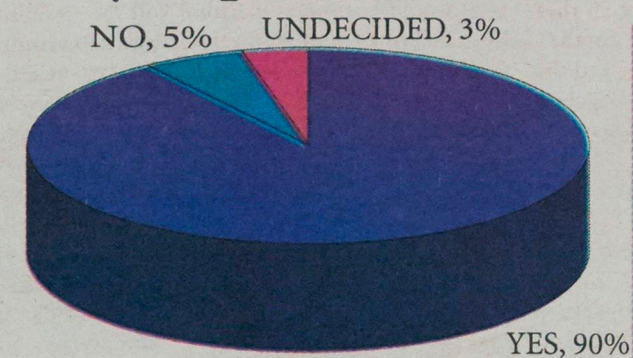
Middlebury Votes 2004

This poll, taken from a sample of 602 Middlebury students, is intended to estimate approximately how many students will vote in the upcoming presidential election on Nov. 2 and in what way they will cast their votes. So far, 91 percent of students are registered to vote and nine percent are not. Surprisingly, 11 percent of Middlebury students are undecided, but there are still two more presidential debates ahead. A solid 74 percent back Senator John Kerry, while 13 percent back the incumbent President George W. Bush. One percent will back Ralph Nader. Five percent of students will not vote in this election, however, this is partly reflective of the fact that non-U.S. citizens were not excluded from the sample.

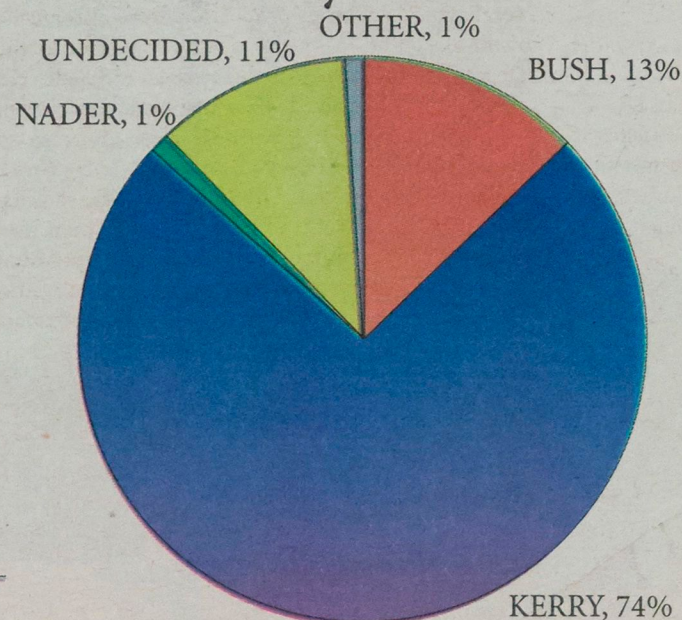
What party are you registered with?



Do you plan to vote?



Who will you vote for?



16

ELECTION POLL
SEE HOW STUDENTS
WILL VOTE IN
NOVEMBER

17

WHAT ISSUE
CONCERNS YOU?
STUDENTS SPEAK
OUT

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THE DRAFT:
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CAMPUS POLITICS
DEMOCRAT AND
REPUBLICAN VOICES
SOUND OFF



By Daniel Houghton

Election Nightmare 2004

By Andrea M. LaRocca
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The 2000 Presidential Election was long — so long that it lasted until 37 days after Election Night, when the U.S. Supreme Court finally ruled that George W. Bush won the electoral votes of Florida and therefore the Presidential election. In the words of Joe Lenski, the executive vice-president of Edison Media Research who recently did a study on the upcoming 2004 election, it was an “election nightmare.” And yes, this year, with the close nature of the election, edisonresearch.com shows that the bad dreams of election commotion could come true again...

Electoral Vote Tie

What is it? Bush and Kerry tie the election with 269 electoral votes each.

What would happen? The U.S. Constitution stipulates that if there is an electoral vote tie, the election would be decided by Congress on Jan. 6, 2005. Yes, that means it would take almost twice as long as last year, 65 days, to determine the outcome of Presidential Election. The new Congress, which gets sworn in on Jan. 3 and which would still include Senator John F. Kerry, also complicates this outcome. **Could it happen?** Research by Lenski says that the mathematical possibility of an electoral vote tie is one in 80, but this year, given the undecided political nature of 13 swing states, 146 different possible combinations of voting outcome in these states would lead to an electoral vote tie. Secretary of the College and Professor of Political Science Eric Davis agreed that several tie scenarios exist. “Right now, my national electoral vote total is Bush 295, Kerry 243,” he said, “If all the smaller and medium-sized states where Bush is now narrowly ahead switch to Kerry (Iowa, Wisconsin, Nevada and New Hampshire), Kerry picks up 26 electoral votes and we have a 269-269 ties in the electoral college,” describing just one of the ways in which an electoral tie could result.

The Proportional Electoral Vote Referendum in Colorado

What is it? In Colorado, the Democrats have added a referendum to the Nov. 2 ballot that would alter the allocation of electoral votes in the state from a winner-take-all to a proportional system effective this Presidential election. If the referendum passes, the nine electoral votes will be proportionally awarded according to the split of votes in Colorado. **What would happen?** Depending on how close the election is, the passage of the referendum could decide the outcome of the Presidential election. If, for example, Bush and Kerry tie in the manner described above but the Colorado referendum passes, Professor Davis explained that “Kerry would pick up four votes from Colorado — the state would split 5-4 for Bush — giving him 273 electoral votes and the Presidency.” But, since the referendum was placed on the ballot by Democrats and calls for immediate rather than future effectiveness, the legality of the referendum would likely be questioned if the election was so close. Continuing the nightmare scenario, Davis said: “Republicans would then certainly sue against enforcement of Amendment 36 [the Colorado referendum], claiming it is unconstitutional to change the rules for counting ballots at the same election in which those ballots are counted. If a court ruled in favor of the Republicans, this would throw the election to the House, where Bush would win in a count by states.” **Could it happen?** Lenski’s research says that if the election is

close, with a net swing of between five and nine electoral votes for Bush and Kerry in the other states, the outcome of the referendum vote would determine the results of the Presidential election. Legal action on behalf of either party about the constitutional nature of the referendum would likely follow.

Louisiana Senate Run-off Election to determine control of the Senate

What is it? If no Senate candidate receives a majority of the vote in the Louisiana non-partisan primary on Nov. 2, 2005, the two top finishers would go in a run-off on Dec. 4. **What would happen?** The outcome of the Louisiana Senate could determine the control of the Senate or, if there was an electoral tie for the Presidential election, it could also determine the Vice President. Davis explained a possible outcome as, “If Bush and Kerry tied in the Electoral College, so would Cheney and Edwards for Vice-President. In this situation, the new Senate that takes office Jan. 3 would have to elect the Vice President. If the Democrats gain one Senate seat, the Senate is tied 50-50 (Jeffords is counted as a Democrat), but Cheney would vote for himself to break the tie and he would be the Vice-President. If the Democrats gain two Senate seats, the Senate is 51-49 Democrat, with Cheney’s tie-breaker not needed. In that scenario, we would have President Bush and Vice President Edwards! If after all the states vote on Nov. 2, the Senate is 50 Democrats and 49 Republicans, with Louisiana not making its final choice of Senator until December 4, the Louisiana final ballot would determine not only LA’s Senator, but also control of the Senate and possibly the Vice Presidency.” **Could it happen?** Lenski’s research says that the Louisiana Senate election will almost decidedly go to a run-off because the ballot has seven candidates (one Republican, four Democrats and two Independents), which means it is highly improbable that one candidate will win the necessary 50 or more percent of the vote. A net swing of one or two seats for the Democrats in the Senate, which is possible, would mean that the Louisiana outcome could also determine control of the Senate.

Louisiana House Run-off Election to determine control of House of Representatives

What is it? Congressional candidates in Louisiana must also receive 50 percent of the vote to win and so it is likely, due to the amount of candidates on the ballot as in the Senate elections, that two to four of the Congressional Districts in Louisiana will go to a run-off election on Dec. 4. **What would happen?** If both the Democrats and the Republicans were short of the 218 seats necessary to control the House, the results of the run-off would determine House control. **Could it happen?** Lenski’s research says that since the Republicans have a current 229-205 lead in the House, the Democrats would have to gain eight to 11 seats nationally for the Louisiana election to affect the control of the House. Such a gain is unlikely but not improbable.

The only question that remains is, will any of these nightmare scenarios actually happen? “While the probability of any of these scenarios playing out is low, they are both mathematical and constitutional possibilities, and are worth some attention,” said Davis. And that means we’ll just have to wait until Nov. 2 to find out. For more information on possible election messes, see www.edisonresearch.com/election_nightmares2004.

VOICES... the most important issue this election



“Stopping stereotypes towards Middle Easterners that enforce hatred that already exists.”

Bocar Kante '07

“Gay marriage. Everyone should have the opportunity to marry whomever they want.”

Victoria
Anderson '08



“The president’s athletic ability.”

Chip Sherwood
'08



“The War on Terrorism. I don’t feel safe in our country right now.”

Laura Barrett
'06



“Honesty with the candidates. We should be correctly informed about what actions America is taking.”

Greg Bassell '08



“Making foreign relationships better with the Middle East because it’s the best way to reduce terrorism against the US.”

Muayad Al
Mahariq '07



Draft bill dies in Congress

By Nicolas Emery
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

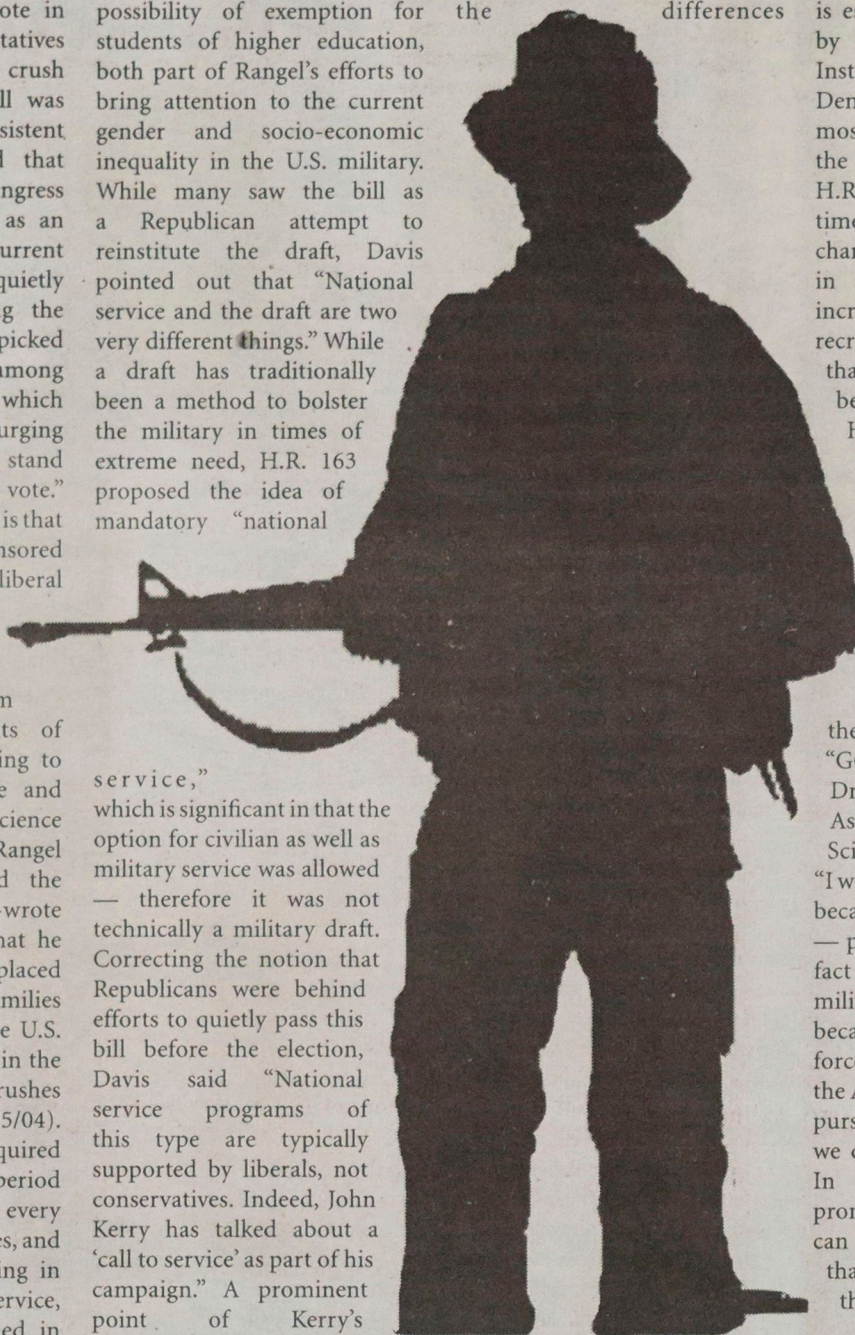
The specter of the military draft returned to haunt the United States — and then moved on. On Tuesday, the so-called “draft” bill in Congress, H.R. 163, was squelched by a 402-2 vote in the House of Representatives in a Republican effort to crush any rumors that the bill was a GOP initiative. A persistent Internet rumor claimed that the bill was sitting in Congress and falsely identified it as an effort on the part of the current Administration to quietly pass a bill re-instituting the draft. This rumor was picked up by Rock the Vote, among other organizations, which sent out mass e-mails urging recipients to “take a stand now by registering to vote.” What many may not know is that H.R. 163 was actually sponsored by 14 “of the most liberal members of the House, many of them members of the Congressional Black Caucus, all of whom are vehement opponents of the war in Iraq,” according to Secretary of the College and Professor of Political Science Eric Davis. Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY), who sponsored the bill, explained that he co-wrote it to spark debate on what he sees as the unjust burden placed on lower-income families who make up most of the U.S. armed forces, as reported in the Reuters article “House Crushes Military Draft Bill” (10/5/04). The bill would have required a mandatory two-year period of “national service” for every “citizen of the United States, and every other person residing in the United States.” This service, which could be performed in

either a military or civilian capacity, would be obligatory for every young person in the U.S. between the ages of 18 and 26. Interestingly, the bill included mandatory service for women and also excluded the possibility of exemption for students of higher education, both part of Rangel’s efforts to bring attention to the current gender and socio-economic inequality in the U.S. military. While many saw the bill as a Republican attempt to reinstitute the draft, Davis pointed out that “National service and the draft are two very different things.” While a draft has traditionally been a method to bolster the military in times of extreme need, H.R. 163 proposed the idea of mandatory “national

service,” which is significant in that the option for civilian as well as military service was allowed — therefore it was not technically a military draft. Correcting the notion that Republicans were behind efforts to quietly pass this bill before the election, Davis said “National service programs of this type are typically supported by liberals, not conservatives. Indeed, John Kerry has talked about a ‘call to service’ as part of his campaign.” A prominent point of Kerry’s

presidential campaign platform is his “National Service” proposal which would, among other things, provide funds to college students in return for a two year program of voluntary civilian service. However, the differences

between Kerry’s proposal and the bill recently voted down in the House are that Kerry’s proposal is not mandatory and does not include military service as an option. Kerry’s national service proposal is essentially an idea put forth by the Progressive Policy Institute (PPI), which is a “New Democratic” group composed mostly of former members of the Clinton Administration. H.R. 163 was demolished this time around, but is there any chance of reviving the draft in the near future? Despite increasing difficulty maintaining recruiting levels and complaints that U.S. troops are stretched beyond their capacity, White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan said “There are some who have tried to bring this up as a scare tactic and that is highly unfortunate. The president does not believe we need a draft and he’s made that repeatedly clear,” as reported in the Associated Press article “GOP Gets House to Nix Draft Bill 402-2” (10/5/04). Assistant Professor of Political Science Bertram Johnson said “I would be stunned if [the draft] became law, for several reasons — public opinion as well as the fact that many officers in the military are opposed to the draft because they believe a volunteer force is better.” Kerry, quoted in the AP article, said “I’m going to pursue a policy that guarantees we don’t have to have a draft.” In this season of campaign promises and war, nothing can be certain — but it seems that for now, at least, the threat of the draft has faded.



Courtesy

Know nada about Nader?

You may have heard Ralph Nader referred to as the guy who stole crucial votes from Al Gore in the still-hotly debated 2000 presidential election. What you may not know is that Nader is back this year and running for president again, this time as an Independent Party candidate, after having run in 2000 under the Green Party banner.

The basis for Nader’s repeat candidacy, as he recently told an online New England magazine, is to give voters another chance to vote for someone outside the “two-party, winner-takes-all dictatorship” that he believes defines modern American government. According to his campaign Web site, his platform is “to take our democracy back from the corporate interests that dominate both parties. As all third-party and Independent candidates do, he is running to mobilize citizens behind an issues agenda — a fundamental solution revolution — for the American people that neither major party will discuss or adopt.”

As far as his current outsider status goes, Nader believes that “third parties and Independents have been the seeds of regeneration and great social movements. Someone has to be in the race to keep the two parties responsive and make sure that the issues that Washington insiders don’t want to address get raised all the way to Election Day. All the Democratic voters can vote for the Democrats. All the Republican voters for the Republicans. And still there would be 100 million-plus non-voting people to approach for their votes” — and it is Nader’s goal to obtain those votes.

So far, despite fierce opposition from Democratic politicians who believe his candidacy may, in their view, adversely affect the outcome of this year’s election (which looks to be just as close as the last one), Nader has gotten his name on the ballot in a majority of states. Whether he will have a measurable impact on the outcome of this year’s election — only time will tell.

— BY ALYSSA THURSTON

Debates reveal the candidates and issues

By Katherine Doorley
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

First Presidential Debate:

What happened— In the first debate President Bush and Senator Kerry were limited to discussing the topic of foreign affairs. Both men, however, chose to concentrate the majority of the time on the situation in Iraq, although Sudan, North Korea and Afghanistan were mentioned.

Senator Kerry spent a large part of the debate trying to put President Bush on the defensive about his actions in the months leading up to the Iraq war and about his efforts in the war on terrorism. The President countered by pointing out numerous ‘flip-flops’ in the Senator’s position on Iraq and highlighting his own record on the war on terror and defending his action in Iraq.

Aftermath: Senator Kerry was deemed the “winner” of this debate by pundits and polls from across the spectrum. Especially important for the Senator was his ability to stick to a clear, understandable point as opposed to his usual pedantic speeches. A majority of the major polling organizations including the *New York Times*-CBS News and Gallup polls have the race at a virtual dead heat in the aftermath of the debate, a change from polls taken prior to the debates, which had President Bush holding as much as a nine-point lead over the Senator, although the Pew Foundation poll found President Bush has a five point lead over Senator Kerry.

Vice Presidential Debate:

Senator Edwards and Vice President Cheney debated for 90 minutes in a manner similar to the one in which the first Presidential debate was conducted. Unlike the first Presidential debate, there was no set topic for discussion and the moderator could address any topic she so chose.

The first half of this debate centered on questions of foreign policy, and similar to the first presidential debate, the majority of the time was focused on the War in Iraq. The second half of the debate then addressed domestic issues, specifically education, health care and the state of the economy. Senator Edwards demonstrated the rhetorical skills he learned as a trial lawyer criticizing the current administration’s record on Iraq as well as their plans for domestic policy. Vice President Cheney, other the other hand, drew on his extensive public service background while pointing out inconsistencies in the Kerry-Edwards platform, specifically relating to defense and tax issues.

Second Presidential Debate:

The Presidential Debate on Friday, Oct. 8 has the potential to be the most interesting of all of the debates. Unlike the other three debates in the series, this debate will follow a so-called town hall format. In this format the questions will not be posed by the moderator, but by audience members. The Gallup poll organization has helped the debate organizers select a statistically random sample of voters, using methods similar to those used to select voters for polling, to attend the debate and pose questions about whatever they would like to the candidates.

Third Presidential Debate:

The third and final Presidential Debate will take place on Oct. 13. This debate will be run in the same manner as the first Presidential debate, with the exception that all questions must be related to the realm of domestic affairs.

The left and right of the election issues

Just as our moods affect our suitemates', and theirs affect ours, our lives touch and are touched by the lives of our fellow Americans. The Democratic Party stands for opportunity and responsibility — so do we, the Middlebury College Democrats. We know that education, job creation and national security are the keys to promoting our constitutional ideals of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The Bush Administration has shown a disturbing disregard for the issue of education. Bush Administration

tax cuts have left many states with large deficits, driving fees and tuition at public four-year colleges up by 35 percent. The Bush Administration has cut funding for mentoring programs for at-risk high school students by \$68 million and under-funded "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB) by \$27 billion.

Teachers will be offered pay raises and additional career development options in exchange for teaching in under-staffed districts or subjects, being held accountable for the results. Kerry will expand high school mentoring programs by two-thirds, expand the availability of early childhood education, simplify the financial aid application process and fully fund NCLB. These initiatives, and others, will collectively ensure that every child in America has the opportunity to pursue his or her greatest ambitions.



Tixo Augustus '06, president, College Democrats

On job-creation, Bush has the worst record of any president since the Great Depression — 1.8 million private sector jobs lost, the average family income down by \$1,462 and long-term unemployment increased by 177 percent. While finding a job today is more difficult than ever, President Bush has proposed over \$1 billion in cuts in job training programs in the last three years.

Kerry and Edwards will work to expand job opportunities for everyone by enforcing trade agreements and close tax law loopholes that encourage outsourcing. To make America more competitive, they will create a New Jobs Tax Credit for 2005 and 2006 and lower corporate tax rates by five percent. Finally, the Bush Administration has been neglectful of our national security. Instead of hunting down Osama bin Laden and working to end our dependence on Saudi oil, Bush has left the job half-done in Afghanistan and begun a war in a nation with absolutely no links to September 11. Lack of planning for this war of choice and the reconstruction has resulted in a country that is rapidly becoming a dangerous quagmire. The Bush Administration has ignored pressing issues of homeland security. Clearly, keeping America safe is not Bush's first priority.

Kerry knows it is essential that Iraq does not become a failed state — he is fully committed to winning the peace. He will improve the Iraqi police-training program, internationalize the reconstruction effort, and enhance security in Iraq to prepare for free and credible elections. Kerry will immediately act on the 9/11 Commission recommendations and create a responsible national intelligence community. He will make sure that Afghanistan does not become yet again a haven for terrorists, and here at home, John Kerry will fully fund improvements in port, aviation and rail security, secure chemical and nuclear plants, and provide first responders with the resources they need to be prepared.

Democrats believe that government should be held responsible for its actions. The existing list of the Bush Administrations' broken promises and manipulated facts paints a picture of a president who has neglected his responsibility to the American people. This November, the most important responsibility we have is to choose our next president. The Middlebury College Democrats choose John Kerry.

— College Democrats

It is ironic that the Democrats, the self-described party of tolerance, can be so close-minded when it comes to examining the Republican viewpoint. Although college campuses are typically full of anti-Republican sentiment, this year's aversion is stronger than ever. Nevertheless, as a young conservative, I find intolerance for the Republican Party to be not only hypocritical, but discouraging. I hope that the following clarification of the Republican platform will improve the dynamic between the Republicans and Democrats on the Middlebury College campus.

Both Republicans and Democrats share the goal of providing all Americans with affordable health care coverage. If re-elected, Bush will support a plan to make healthcare, a product of the private market, more readily available by lowering costs for Americans. Small business owners will receive tax credits for providing low-cost insurance to their employees and their families and for contributing to their employees' portable health care accounts. In addition, low-income families will receive tax credits to help them afford insurance. Tort reform will help reduce the number of frivolous malpractice suits filed against doctors, thus driving down the price of insurance.

The conservative position on national security is a realistic approach to making America's security our number one priority. A major criticism of the handling of the war in Iraq is that President Bush and his administration did not adequately solicit support from the international community, specifically the United Nations. In fact, President Bush attempted to act in conjunction with the United Nations, but the success of the United Nations is contingent upon their credibility. It was only after their failure to follow through on the ultimatums they set out, in reaction to Saddam Hussein's violations of 16 UN resolutions, that President Bush and our 30 allies moved ahead without their support.

The recession inherited from the Clinton administration, coupled with the staggering economic costs of 9/11 left President Bush with an economy in need of drastic reforms. The tax cuts he instituted in 2001, which will be made permanent if the President is re-elected, have been very successful. Recent statistics show, "the economy has posted job gains for each of the last 12 months — creating nearly 1.7 million jobs since August 2003," and "at 5.4 percent, the unemployment rate is below the average of the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s" (<http://www.gop.com/>

news/read.aspx?ID=4604). Democrats argue that the President's tax cuts were only beneficial to the wealthy members of society while in fact it was the members of the lowest income tax bracket that received the most relief. Members of the highest income tax bracket received more money back because they initially paid higher income taxes, but proportionately they received less than those in the lower brackets.

Education in America needs to be re-evaluated. The Republican platform, as reflected in the "No Child Left Behind" initiatives, supports standardized testing as a tool to hold schools accountable and ensure that students meet federal standards for reading and math. Many liberal thinkers argue against standardized testing because they feel teachers will spend all of their time teaching to the test. It's perfectly acceptable for teachers to be teaching to the test because that means they will be teaching reading and math. The conservative voice on this campus will remain strong regardless of the level of intolerance it encounters. While both parties have similar objectives, each supports a different method of accomplishing these objectives. Each voter must now evaluate both platforms and select a candidate with ideology that most resembles his or her own.

— College Republicans



Allison Kennedy '07, president, College Republicans

Students team up to promote the vote

By Andrea Gissing
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It is very easy to sit back and think about being active in one's community, and quite another to actually go out and get things done. This fall, Andy Rossmeissl '05 and Samuel Wilson '05 actively worked to get results.

Concerned by the slim margin of the election in 2000, and determined to encourage as many people as possible to vote, Rossmeissl and Wilson, with the help of others, took it upon themselves to get people registered to vote.

"[A] couple weekends ago Sam and I decided to set up a table at the Mill's Dinosaur party where partygoers could register to vote and request absentee ballots for their states," said Rossmeissl. "That night we registered about 25 new voters and facilitated 75 absentee applications." Rossmeissl looked up the forms and printed them off of the Internet while Wilson went out and became a notary so he could register voters in Vermont on the spot.

Buoyed by the success at the Mill, and at the suggestion of Emily Kidder '05, the operation moved to Proctor and Ross.

In total, they registered 69 new voters, sent out 220 applications for absentee

ballots and are still expecting several forms to be turned in. They processed forms for 36 states from Alaska to Wyoming to Washington DC.

Despite the fact that both Rossmeissl and Wilson are Democrats, they decided to make this a totally non-partisan venture.



Andy Rossmeissl '05 and Sam Wilson '05 heft completed voter registration forms with satisfied smiles.

"We both think that the only way we can have a true democracy is if everybody votes," said Rossmeissl. "Yes, this means that we're going to get some votes for the 'other guy,' but I'd rather have a 100 percent turnout with a Kerry loss than a 50 percent turnout with a Kerry win."

"I really think and hope that college-age citizens will be more active this year than they have in years past," said Wilson. "I feel as though more people, not just people our age, are getting involved in the electoral process this year."

"After 2000 was decided by so few votes I feel that people started to realize that their votes do matter," he continued.

"We both saw that the single biggest threat to our country is apathy," said Rossmeissl. "In the political context, this means people aren't [learning] about their candidates. I think for a lot of people it's because the whole political world is intimidating. We knew that if we could help people to make the first step, reach out to them, we could get this at the front of their minds."

"I think getting college-age people to vote is of the utmost importance," Wilson continued.

"We are the age group that historically has the lowest voter turnout, but oddly enough many of the issues impact us directly, from whether or not there will be a draft to how healthy the environment will be when we raise families."

Kim Bowker

features

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SKETCH COMEDY
MORE SKETCHY
THAN COMEDIC IN
PARENTS' COMPANY

19
**RANTING BUT
NOT RAVING**
PEEVED BY MIDD'S
BUREACRATIC
IMPRACTICALITIES

19
**THE DESERTED
BANDWAGON**
BENCH-WARMING
FOR THE IN-CROWD

20-21
**MOMENT IN THE
SPOTLIGHT**
HONORING MIDD
EMPLOYEES WORKING
BEHIND THE SCENES

Second City stages second rate show for family weekend

By Lisie Mehlman
FEATURES EDITOR

The Second City Comedy Troupe is renowned for introducing America to some of the best comedic actors of our time — from Gilda Radner and John Belushi to Mike Meyers and Bill Murray. But you probably would not have guess that based on the "45th Anniversary Tour" performance the group put on in Pepin Gymnasium last Saturday night.

According to the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) Web site, Second City's sketch comedy includes "six actors augmented by a musical accompanist" and is renowned for "its unique satirical humor." A little after 8:30 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 2, the actors began their two-act revue, which was a compilation of material that the troupe has created throughout its 45-year existence, in front of a packed Pepin Gymnasium.

MCAB President Meredith Kernan '05, who booked the show for Fall Family Weekend I last spring, said that MCAB "sold out [the show] and then some."

While the sketch comedy routines were reasonably funny, the content frequently bordered on inappropriate for an audience comprised primarily of college



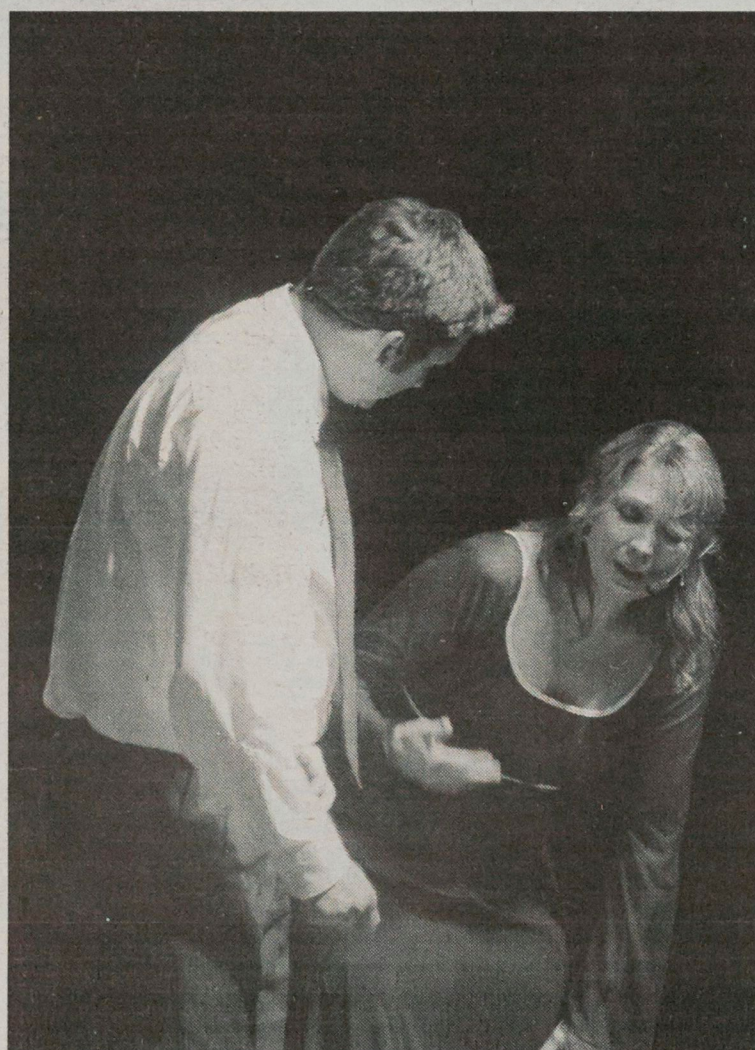
Second City cast performed numerous racy scenes for an audience largely comprised of visiting parents. Julia Randall

We got a great reception, people seemed to be enjoying the show even when it could have been a little uncomfortable to be watching it with parents.

— Julie Cuthbertson '05

students and their visiting parents. Student reactions to the show were mixed, with many noting that the

show that relied heavily on many not-so-subtle sexual jokes while sitting side-by-side with family



Julia Randall

Though renowned for producing actors such as John Belushi and Mike Myers, the Second City Comedy Show failed to receive rave reviews.

group's humor was overshadowed by the feelings of discomfort that resulted from watching a comedy

members. One skit, for example, involved a child listening via cell phone as her parents had sex. Julie Cuthbertson '05, who organized the the show, thought that it was well received by the crowd. "People seemed to be enjoying the show even at times when it could have been a little uncomfortable to be watching it with parents. I was surrounded by parents and students alike laughing throughout the entire performance," she said. Kernan echoed these sentiments, saying, "I think it could have been a little less racy, but for the most part the content was fine."

Some students not accompanied by parents still found the show to be lacking in humor. Roshni Shikari '07 said, "I thought

ticket sales), and many non-Midwesterners had never heard of the comedy troupe. We sold out the show on Thursday of last week, but because so many people were still interested in coming, we sold an additional 150 tickets at the door. Almost unheard of in MCAB history!"

According to Cuthbertson, the Second City cast was great to work. "We would definitely consider bringing them back to campus," she said.

Booking Second City for this year's Fall Family Weekend was a stroke of luck for MCAB scheduled and financing, according to Kernan. "When I called their agent with the dates we were looking at [Friday and Saturday nights of

I heard that Second City was really good from friends who saw it in Chicago, but I wound up leaving at intermission because I didn't think it was very funny.

— Lindsey Jones '07

it was alright, but from what I have heard they are a lot funnier in Chicago. I just don't think improve comedy is my style. It couldn't really hold my attention."

Lindsey Jones, '07, who attended the show with her friends, said, "I heard that Second City was really good from friends who saw it in Chicago, but I wound up leaving at intermission because I didn't think it was very funny."

Kernan noted, "With sketch comedy you can't expect every single sketch to be hilarious, but for the most part I was very happy."

Despite mixed reviews, Cuthbertson said, "We had an unbelievable turn out, especially considering the show was only three weeks into the school year (not leaving us much time for publicity and

both Fall Family Weekends], it turned out that they were already performing at UVM on Friday Oct. 1. So the Middlebury show not only fit perfectly into the performers' schedule, it worked out well for us too because we didn't have to cover any travel expenses."

MCAB was very enthusiastic about the possibility of bringing Second City to Middlebury for Family Weekend after Capitol Steps, another sketch comedy group, received rave reviews last year. Kernan said, "I had never heard of Second City, but once I looked at their Web site and talked with students and fellow MCAB members, I realized how popular they were and what a fun show it might be for Middlebury."

Airing out Middlebury's dirty laundry

College caught red handed, doling out bureaucratic injustices



In our somnambulist pursuit of knowledge, we have grown more and more frustrated with minor yet aggravating policies of our beloved Middlebury College. These seemingly insignificant, but downright annoying administrative decisions have really gotten the best of us. As we reach for a yet higher state of enlightenment, we have been impeded in our progress by the very institution that promises intellectual and extracurricular nirvana in exchange for \$40,000 a year.

We hate to sit and complain (or are we just deluding ourselves?), but this is a rant column, and we therefore feel obligated to pinpoint our grievances, which, of course, reflect those of the student body at large. It is now quarter to 1 a.m., and for those of you who do not live in the library like your trusty Features Editors do, this means that the facility will shut its doors to the overextended in what seems like one apocalyptic moment. Which leads nicely into our first grumble — after spending what seems to be more than a third world country's GDP to erect this palatial edifice, why can't the College keep it open?

Yes, we know there are only about 2,300 students on campus. And yes, whoever is going to stay up

— A weekly rant by Aglaya Glebova and Lisie Mehlman

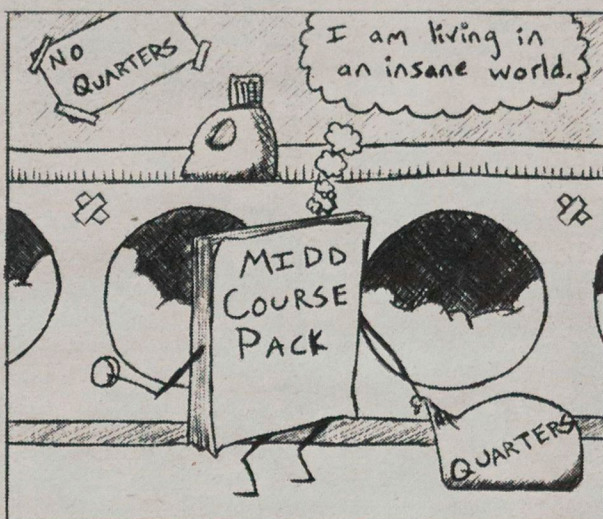
all night guarding this precious depository of wisdom will have to get paid. But then again, it is only going to be \$7.02 an hour, so it is really not a big deal when you think about what your parents are paying for an hour of your class time. And, out of those 2,300 kids, we bet a couple will be willing to subject themselves

to keep the library open 24-7, it should switch to nighttime operation. What could be better than sleeping in all day because you know you cannot check out that reserve reading until after dinner? Your conscience would be cleared, your hangover would be relieved and your academic progress would improve because the night

dimes really add up. And we have our bank statements to prove it.

And this provides us with an excellent segue — aren't we eloquent? — to another topic involving coinage, only this time it's quarters. We can't believe that our administrators got brain-"washed" into believing that change machines and coin-operated laundry machines are a bad idea. With thousands of dollars in now useless quarter rolls, Middkids have nothing better to do but engage in excessive, even by our standards, rounds of quarters (you know — the drinking game). In the time that it takes a Middkid to carry laundry to a faraway building, deposit money on his or her laundry card and secure his or her place in line for the next available washer, he or she could complete a thorough reading of "The Iliad."

For a place that boasts some of the brightest students and faculty in the nation, it is nonsensical that even the most basic day-to-day operations do not function smoothly. Which, in our perverse and circuitous manner of writing, leads us to conclude with what we started — by making everything, even laundry, such an absurdly bureaucratic and impractical endeavor, the College is making our Sunday nights a lot more stressful.



*By Daniel Houghton

to these meager wages.

No student, with all of today's distractions — thefacebook.com, free cell minutes after 9 p.m. and away messages just waiting to be read — begins to tackle his or her formidable assignments until 10 p.m. And we know that applies to you, since you're reading this instead of doing your econ problem sets.

If the College cannot "afford"

would still be young in that spacious study carrel.

Speaking of academics, we fail to comprehend why professors do not utilize e-Reserves to secure whatever obscure readings they assign. After all, 10 cents a page is a hefty price to pay when you could just print those 100 pages for free. For broke students, who do not have a tenured position with a nice salary attached to it, those



BY MATT KUNZWEILER

I sat at the second coolest lunch table in high school. If a couple of the really cool kids were sick or away on a varsity sporting trip, I'd get called up to feast with the dynasty. That's right, for as many as 15 meals during my senior year of high school, I ate lunch with the prom king and queen, cheerleaders and sports team captains. Actually, I too captained a varsity team, but sadly, it was badminton, so I tried not to remind anyone of this.

I was really just a bench-warmer for the in-crowd. You might think that's sad. But no. I served a very important function — just imagine what would happen if the cool kids knew that whenever three or four of them didn't show up to school there would be no one to fill in the missing positions. The popular crowd would become visibly shorthanded, and we all know that you can't be the coolest posse in school if there are only four of you. Four? That's not even a group, much less a cool group.

You need numbers to uphold the social status quo in high school. And that's where I came in. If I didn't fill in when they needed me, the in-crowd would become so meager that the rest of the school would easily notice their weakness and deem them insufficient to socially command the rest of the student body. Without my faithfulness and the willing support of a few other notables, the young men and women who deserved the status of "cool" could have been quickly usurped by a bunch of total losers.

What would happen if the AV club capitalized on such a situation? Or worse, those kids who felt liberated through their involvement in interpretive dance? Madness. Not only would the lunchroom be disorganized and chaotic, with nerds and total cupcakes thinking they could sit at the same table as Vic Trennon, but the entire school hierarchy would dissolve. Without the looming threat of being mocked by the in-crowd (a.k.a. the system of checks and balances), dorky kids would feel free to do and say anything they wanted. The math team would make sweatshirts, boys would take home-ec, the badminton team would realize that they were entitled to letter jackets, the stoners still wouldn't wash their clothes and the kid who sat in the front of history class — the one with the cowlick and little eyes, who would notify the teacher when she forgot to assign homework — would not fear the wedge.

Without people like me, you would have hated high school.

Call me a pawn, a tool or whatever you like, but I got to high-five Vic Trennon when we passed in the hallways — in front of everyone — and most of the time he wouldn't pull his hand back and run it through his beautiful hair.

WINNING STREAK



Julia Randall

Running for the hills of Middlebury, a naked n' proud Hamilton streaker spices up an afternoon rugby game on Saturday, Oct. 2. Despite the distraction, Middlebury's team remains undefeated. Although many may not condone such scandalous practices, we must not forget our own tradition of streaking, between the frisbee team and midnight McCullough madness, or risk being "exposed" as hypocrites. Next competition? The buffest man in town showdown.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

PARENTS WEEKEND

Even if your own parents disowned you this weekend, didn't going out to dinner on Jane's Dad more than make up for it?

DRUNK FRIENDS

They're the people you meet each week at Angela's Bar or at Mister Up's, and you have a great yet shameful time. But heaven forbid you see them sober.

THE SOPHOMORE FEELING

To be a sophomore: Just arrogant enough after shedding that "first-year" label to feel entitled to step on some toes and be inconsiderate drunks. Great feeling, too bad the rest of us have to live with them.

PARENTS WEEKEND

What else is there to love? The 10 a.m. burgers with a side of bees? The swarms of pretentious, sweater-round-the-neck parents? SUV traffic? None of the above.

PEOPLE WHO DON'T SAY "HI"

You know you used to live on my hall. You know we sat next to each other during Bio everyday. You know we hooked up last weekend ... so say "hi," damn it!

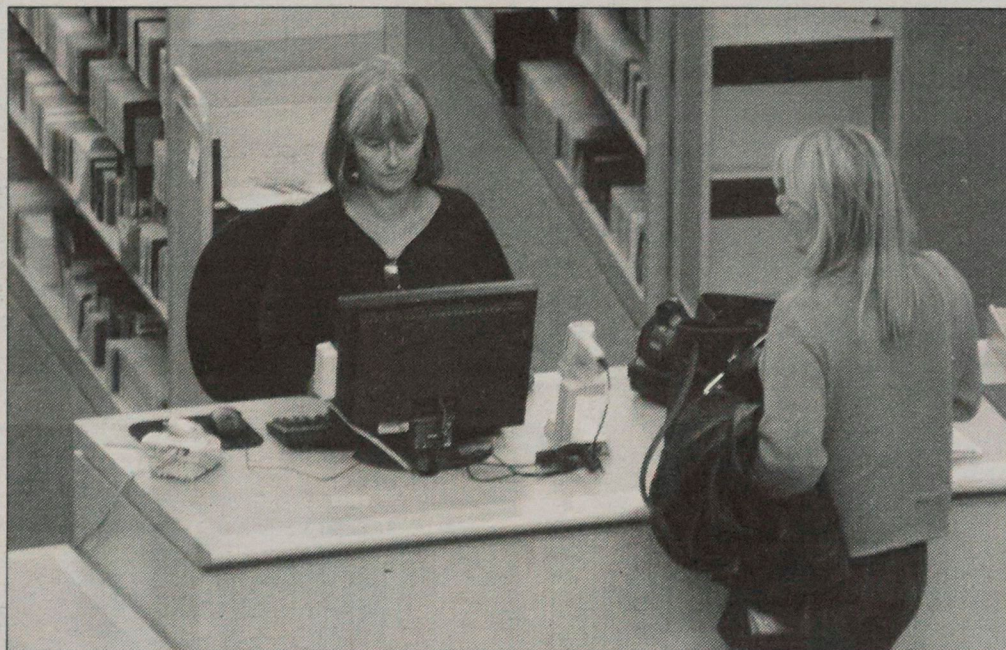
FIRST-YEARS WITH HANGING MIDD CARDS

Hanging your cards from your rainbow belt will not make you cooler. In fact, you should be hiding your identity. P.S.: Beeners are for climbers.

In the most recent Princeton Review survey of "The 357 Best Colleges," Middlebury topped even the United States Military Academy to earn the first spot in the "School Runs Like Butter" category. The Campus took a closer look into several departments that make the College churn. Although it is impossible to pay homage to all those who work from dusk to dawn serving the College, the following articles highlight the contributions of some of Middlebury's devoted staff. These people not only provide us with the essentials — safe weekends, warm and cozy rooms and clean bathrooms — but also go out of their way to ensure that Middlebury students benefit from various amenities, some of which are not even specified in their job descriptions. In many ways, these "unsung heroes" working behind the scenes, make your college experience what it is.

— BY AGLAYA GLEBOVA AND LISIE MEHLMAN

Unsung heros:



Julia Randall

Helpful members of the library staff often aid students in a variety of tasks.

One for the books

Have you ever noticed the fresh flowers in the library? Did you ever wonder who took the time to pick them and arrange them there? That person is Judy Watts, who can be found at the reference desk of the new library until as late as 10 p.m. on a Sunday night.

Watts has led students through book stacks at Middlebury since 1980. She worked in the old science library when she first arrived on campus, but now works in the reference section. Some of Watts' many library jobs include helping with library organization, cataloguing serials and acquiring new books. She also assists students with access services and interLibrary loans. In short, Watts is a useful woman to know when you get frazzled writing a research paper.

Most recently, Watts has dedicated herself to familiarizing staff and students with educational technology. She commented, "In an educational institution, you need technology to apply resources."

Watts wears more than just a librarian's hat at the College. "My photo is on the back of any bathroom door on campus as a human relations officer," she said.

Watts loves her job in the library because the work is never monotonous. "My job is driven by what people need," she explained. "Learning a lot is part of the job." Watts continues to increase her knowledge and to stay updated while helping students explore information for research projects.

Watts is thrilled with the new library. "It is great to see people fill the place up. People like being here because it is a functional building — it's light during the day and at night." So whether you are looking to find a rare book through interLibrary loan, asking a question about the book catalogue or just stopping to admire the sunflowers, Watts would be your quiet library heroine.

— BY JULIA MCKINNEN



Megan O'Keefe

A member of the custodial staff tidies up one of the often grotesquely unsanitary student dormitory bathrooms.

Keepin' it clean

As students, we often become trapped in a cycle of self-pity. Exams, papers, deadlines, classes and the ubiquitous rigor of college life are all legitimate reasons for complaint here and there, but have you noticed the individuals in the mirror tidying up behind you as you brush your teeth in the morning? While the affair with the toothbrush might be your first activity of the morning, the custodial staff on your hall is already tearing through their second or third building of the day. Six a.m. rolls around and students snooze soundly as the custodial staff revs up for a day of rectifying the state of our halls and bathrooms.

Betty Rheume, one of the Battell's custodians, has been waking up for this ritual for 22 years. She described her experience as pleasurable, despite the fact she had just finished sanitizing the shower, simply because of the students. "My boss tells me I baby the students," she said sheepishly. Suddenly grinning she added, "But I don't care, I just try to help out."

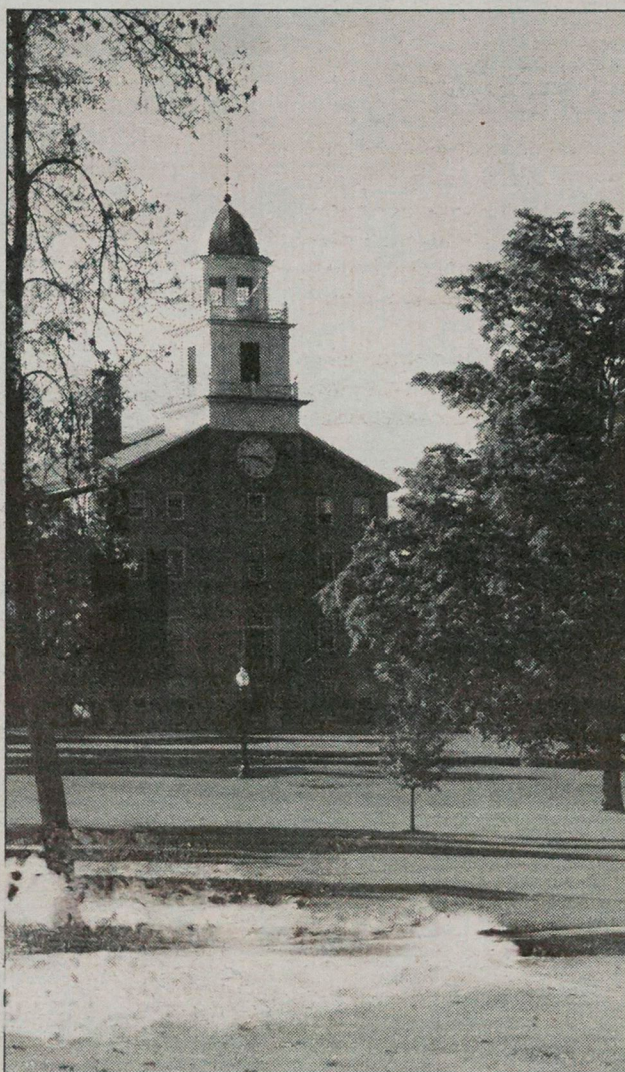
By "helping out" Rheume means doing all the tasks for residents that the custodial staff often performs, though they are not part of the job description. From not throwing out your toothpaste (which they are supposed to do if you leave it in the bathroom) to actually helping out with bed-lifting, the staff is continually involved in a range of tasks that we, as "unassuming" students, may take for granted.

When asked about the worst part of the job, Kirk Sabourin, another Battell custodian said, "Mondays." Rheume nodded in assent with a slight widening of the eyes. Clearly, the weekend wreckage of collegiate indulgence has been a particular source of workplace trauma.

Regardless, Rheume said she will miss her job when she cleans her last shower on Dec. 24, as she plans to retire after 22 years of mopping up weekend disasters. When asked what the first day off has in store for her, she replied, "Get up early and make Christmas dinner."

Rheume is only one of the dozens of custodial superstars on campus, hardworking and perhaps underappreciated. The moral of the story — we should all be working to minimize our sometimes unconventional hygienic habits simply out of love for our janitorial staff. Have you thanked a custodian today?

— BY JESSICA HORNER



Julia Randall

Middlebury's beautiful campus is regularly maintained by the sometimes underappreciated staff of Facilities Management.

A cut above

Tree branches would grow through our dorm windows and scraggly hues would block our views of the outside world if it were not for Steven Sanator and his 12 friends who make up the landscaping division of Facilities Management. They work year round, even through negative 20-degree weather, to keep the campus looking its best.

Sanator has called the town of Middlebury home for all of his life. He went to Middlebury Union High School and has worked at the College for almost four years. He started out part time, but thanks to his "machine experience," he soon landed a job as a full-time employee.

The best part of Sanator's job is that he gets "to be outside working with plants." In particular, Sanator and his crew take a lot of pride in maintaining the campus' northern zone. They fiercely compete with the crew in charge of central grounds to complete clean up tasks first. The rivalry is particularly intense during the fall, "especially when the leaves blow from [the central] side onto ours, [and] they laugh at us when we have to clean them up."

Sanator is particularly busy now because the lawns have been growing unusually fast. "The mulch beds have more weeds in them than usual," he observed, "It's been hard to keep up, this is the most mowing we've ever had to do." Come winter, Sanator will still be working hard to keep up. "Winter is when we do most of our tree trimming — sometimes it gets pretty cold," he explained.

Sanator's advice to students? "If you see us stuck with a Gator — a John Deere transportation cart — in the snow, help us out." Some students have done so in the past, but mainly Sanator does not get to interact much with the students. "It's funny, sometimes you've got this big piece of machinery and people almost bump into you like they didn't see you," he said. This proves that all of us should be more aware of how much the landscaping workers do to keep our campus looking beautiful.

— BY LYNN GRAY

maintaining rhythm of college life

Working the kinks out of quotidian life

Did you ever wonder who keeps the ice cream cold, the dorms warm and the toilets flushing? Eugene Roy is one of the repair and maintenance workers who services heating, refrigeration, ventilation and plumbing on campus.

He has worked at the College for seven years, but has been part of the Middlebury community for three decades. He began working on campus thanks to his expertise in refrigeration, but expanded the list of his duties quickly. "We have to be very diverse [in our range of capabilities]," Roy explained. He went on to say, "We have a lot of resources here — they don't hold us back."

Roy loves interacting with students while on the job, which he claimed gets "better and better all the time." He has two college-aged sons, so he truly understands the college scene. Roy loves talking to the students he encounters when visiting dorms at all hours of the day or night to repair heaters. He mused, "It's fun to see the freshmen go through the years all the way to graduation. I can recognize a lot of the faces."

Roy and his department meet the challenges of working at a college head on. "Everyday we find problems, fix them and move [quickly to the next project]," he said. Roy also noted that Middlebury has a good preventative maintenance program, which helps lower the frequency of emergencies. If there is an emergency, though, Roy and others are always on call 24-7, weekends included.

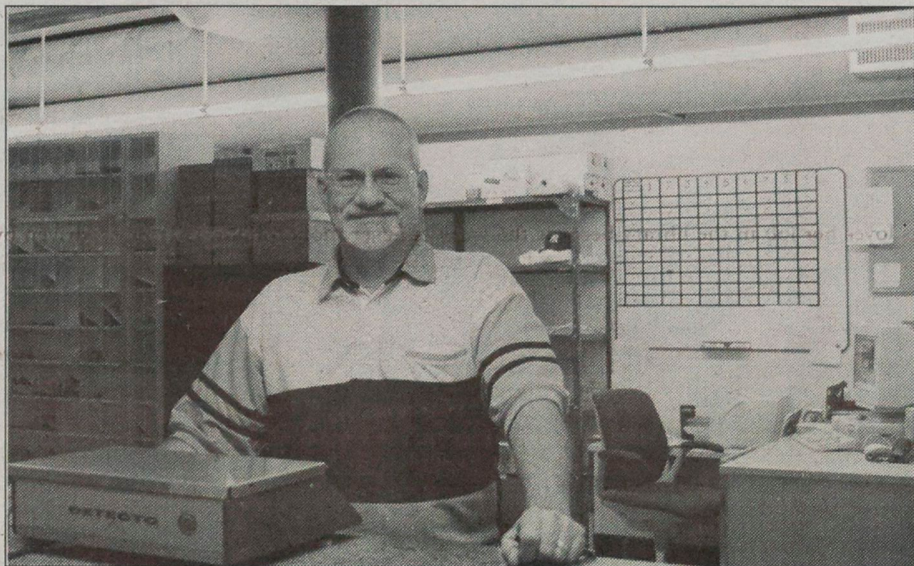
Roy summed up his experiences at the College by saying, "There are a lot of good guys, everybody works together well here." According to Roy, his department in particular functions as perfectly as possible. "We respond fairly fast to all our calls, it's very fluid and everything runs smooth," he said. Speaking of smooth, Roy is one of several people who operate the zamboni machine at those hockey games we all love to watch, so let's hear a little more cheering during the period break!

— BY LYNN GRAY



Abbie Beane

Maintenance trucks help Facilities Management workers carry out their numerous duties at the College.



Julia Randall

David La Rose, the Mail Center supervisor, oversees the daily delivery of up to 700 packages.

Safe in our bubble

While most students associate security guards with drinking citations and parking tickets, spending an hour with security guard Denny Rheume reveals that the job entails a greater number of different duties. In the first five minutes with Rheume he picked up first-year football player Kevin Spear at Allen Hall and delivered him to the training room for physical therapy on his knee. While on crutches, Kevin has gotten to know Denny and the other day-time security guards well as they transport him from Alexander Twilight Hall to class and also to Nelson to see the trainer.

Denny works the day shift from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, patrolling parking lots, writing tickets, doing the college banking, answering calls, delivering lab work from the Health Center to Porter Hospital and driving medical transports for students like Kevin.

"Most students just see me writing tickets, but I'm here to help people unlock doors when they are stuck in their towels [because their roommates locked them out], help students find bikes and do a lot of other little things. [We try] to assist the students as best we can."

Surprisingly Rheume liked working the night shift for the College in past years. "On the night shift you get to go into dorms and that's a big part. You get to interact with the students and find out where they're from. There's people from a lot of different walks of life here," said Rheume.

On the night shift security guards patrol the campus on foot and walk through the dormitories, whereas the day guards drive around in security cruiser vans to run files across campus, take care of students with their keys locked in their cars and in the meantime write parking tickets.

The day shift, however, is an asset to family life. Rheume has a daughter at Newbury College and a son who is a junior in high school. "In my spare time I watch him play football and baseball." But his spare time is limited. According to Ross Commons Coordinator Sue Harris, "You can't keep up with Denny. He's too bashful though, you have to talk to his wife to find out all the things he does."

Over the past 14 years Rheume has been on the scene for a fair number of Town and College accidents and tragedies. Some might think that you would get burned out doing such work. But Rheume finds it exceedingly satisfying to be able to lend a hand. "It is such a reward to know you were able to help someone or even extend their life," he said.

And of those frustrating 10 dollar parking tickets, Rheume says, "yes, I do have a job where I have to put tickets on cars and everyone gets mad at me, but hey, this is a learning institution, isn't it?"

— BY JULIA MCKINNON

Prize-winning package

If you thought getting the combination on your mailbox locker right was hard, consider what it takes to deliver your mail. While it may seem to be a simple and straightforward operation, sorting and delivering mail to over 2,300 students and all faculty and staff on campus is a time-consuming and laborious process.

Half an hour before the mail room opens, employees are already sorting mail — on average, 300 to 400 packages a day. However, in the beginning of September, as students were moving in, up to 700 packages were sorted and delivered every day, according to David La Rose, the Mail Center supervisor.

With so much incoming mail, it is not surprising that the Mail Center sometimes becomes a high-stress environment. "We do everything by hand — write receipts, log packages. It takes us half a day or longer to get through an afternoon's [worth of work]," La Rose said. Impatient students who track their packages online can become a stress source, too. "It's part of the job," La Rose observed. "I should have gotten a package by now" is one of the great quotes we get. [But you have to understand that] it takes us pretty much all day to do our job."

In addition to delivering students' new CDs, DVDs, Pantagonia underwear, magazines and even FedEx packages, the Mail Center employees distribute mail to various academic and administrative departments on campus, as well as pick up their outgoing mail. There are nine mail routes, each consisting of six to 11 stops. Six of these routes are completed by student employees, and three are carried out by three full-time employees who have worked together for the past 16 years.

The Mail Center relies heavily on student help. "The most enjoyable part of this job is working with the kids I hire. The most frustrating part of the job is when students don't show up for whatever reason," La Rose said.

Rebecca Hollewijn '07, a student employee who is working at the Mail Center for a second year, said, "The worst part of the job is not being acknowledged. Students need to remember that anybody, whether it be custodial staff, students or administrators, would rather be acknowledged than ignored." In short, she continued, "Say 'Hello!'"

— BY AGLAYA GLEBOVA



Julia Randall

Public Safety not only doles out parking tickets, but also performs a variety of needed services.

arts

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SUPERB SEXTET
 YOUTHFUL TAKE ON
 CLASSICAL MASTERS

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AFRICAN ODYSSEY
 MIDDLEBURY GRAD
 PUBLISHES PEACE
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**POET AND
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 DANA GIOIA DOUBLES
 AS HEAD OF NATIONAL
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ON A GREEK ISLE
 LAWRENCE DURRELL'S
 RECOLLECTION OF
 POST-WWII RHODES

Sextet freshens up classics

By Alexandra Hay
 STAFF WRITER

The Center for the Arts (CFA) concert hall was buzzing with excitement this past Saturday night in anticipation of the performance by Concertante, a sextet of talented young artists on the violin, viola and cello. The sextet includes Xaio-Dong Wang and Ittai Shapira on violin, Rachel Shapiro and Ara Gregorian on viola and Sophie Shao and Alexis Pia Gerlach on cello. Audience members walked from the blustery winds and spitting rain of a fall evening into an atmosphere charged with expectation. As the house lights went down and the young performers walked onstage, one could sense the audience's eagerness for the first piece, the "String Sextet from Capriccio, Opus 85," by Richard Strauss.

The performers underscored their youth by dressing in evening gowns of scarlet, deep purple and satin-black for the women and black t-shirts and suit jackets for the men. Rhinestones flashed on strappy black stiletto sandals. The first few measures fell soft and gentle, flowing out into the audience and coaxing each listener to sit back and relax.

The easy nature of the first few measures did not last long, however, as the young performers were soon playing powerfully and energetically. Each piece began slowly but quickly grew tense. The music seemed to echo the uncertainties of life, always demanding, "What comes next?" and "Will it be enough?"

Concertante describes itself as a group of "outstandingly gifted young artists who have won major national and international music competitions. 'As solo performers,' the program continues, 'they have graced the premiere stages of the world from New York's Carnegie Hall to London's Royal Festival Hall to Shanghai's Grand Theatre.' The



Courtesy

The technical mastery and illustrious credentials of Concertante belie the sextet's youthful age.

virtuosity of the musicians is undeniable, though the artists seemed to take an unusually humble approach to their individual biographies. Almost all of the musicians have soloed with world-renowned orchestras and the number of awards and prizes they have received is staggering.

The first piece, the string sextet by Strauss, opens his last opera, "Capriccio," and is intended to be "a conversation piece," echoing the discussion of the two main characters over the comparative value of words and music in opera — a disagreement overwhelmingly won by the power of music as written by Strauss. At times the performers took on an eerie resemblance to mad scientists, extracting deadly music from their instruments with heads twitching and elbows akimbo, all six rocking back and forth, rising out of their chairs as the violent music issued forth.

Just as the first piece surprised the audience with its soft entrance, the second piece attacked from another unexpected direction, with cello and viola thrumming a deep, sinister chord that seemed to seep from the wooden walls of the concert hall and swirl around the audience. "Verklarte Nacht, Opus 4," by Arnold Schoenberg, is a musical retelling of a poem by Richard Dehmel from 1896, in which a despairing young woman confesses that the child in her womb does not belong to her lover.

The deep, distraught tones that begin the piece are continued through the first three movements, in which the woman confesses her dark secret and tragically waits for her lover's rejection.

The fourth section brought unexpected tenderness and caring as the lover declared that the child will become his own through the love they share, and their joy and resolu-

tion built through the final section until the piece ended on a hopeful note as the dark opening of cello and viola was transferred to the violin.

The group's third piece was Johannes Brahms' "String Sextet in B flat Major, Opus 18," which he wrote during a brief period of calm and happiness in his life, during which he said, "Passions are not natural to mankind. They are always exceptions or excrescences. The ideal, genuine man is calm in joy and calm in pain and sorrow."

Although magnificently executed, the interpretation of the young musicians missed the intended calm of the piece, as their youthful energy suffused the work with the same suspenseful tension that pervaded the entire performance.

Old and young audience members alike enjoyed the performance, after which everyone seemed invigorated, bidding the performers farewell with rapturous applause.

Alumna author at corps of Ivory Coast

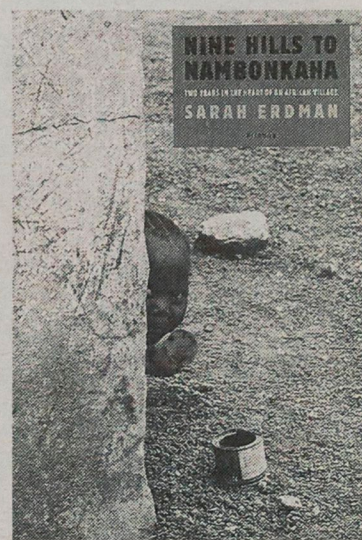
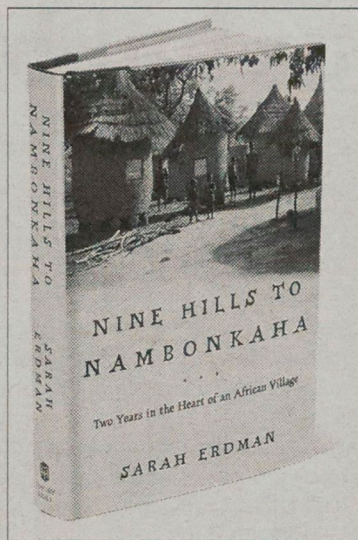
By Eliza Hulme
 STAFF WRITER

Sara Erdman '96 returned to Middlebury this past Monday to describe her time as a Peace Corps volunteer in Côte d'Ivoire, an experience that she has recorded in her new book, "Nine Hills to Nambonkaha: Two Years in the Heart of an African Village." The reading was well attended, and the audience included a delegation from the State Department of East African leaders as well as many former and future members of the Peace Corps.

After graduating from Middlebury, Erdman determined that she wanted to spend some time in the Foreign Service. Having decided to join the Peace Corps, Erdman wound up as a health worker in a small village in the northern part of Côte d'Ivoire. Erdman soon learned that she had to write her experiences down or else forget all but their general outline. At the completion of her service in 2000, Erdman returned to the states with a collection of journal entries, notes and letters. Writing the book was almost a necessity, not a choice. "I felt obligated to write [the book]," she said.

Erdman gave a poised and heartfelt reading of several passages from her work dealing with subjects ranging from daily life in her village to the tragedy of AIDS. In telling humorous tales of interactions with village children, the joy of being accepted into village life and the pain of losing people to distance or disease, Erdman succeeded in evoking an Africa rarely seen by Western eyes.

The most moving story of the evening, however, dealt with a subject that, from the western perspective, is almost synonymous with the mention of Africa — AIDS. Erdman told the story of how a local villager took in the widow of a male relative and her child, and according to traditional custom, made the widow his wife. Warmly welcomed by the village and her new family, the woman joined her new husband's three other wives and happily settled into village life. Erdman became visibly emotional as she described the gradually declining health of her new friend and her little boy. There were few dry eyes in the room when Erdman told how, with the death of



Courtesy

Erdman's book, published both in paperback and hardcover, retells both the uplifting and devastatingly sad stories of her time in Africa.

the child, she realized what was afflicting him and his mother. It was AIDS. Tragically, the woman's new husband and his other wives had doubtless contracted the disease. As Erdman noted sadly at the close of this chapter, it was no one's fault. It was a matter of tradition, and "tradition overrides pragmatism."

In her introduction of Erdman, Peace Corps Representative Susanne Delaney told the audience that, as a former Peace Corps volunteer, it was "so wonderful to have someone who put [the Peace Corps experience] into words." This sentiment was echoed across the room at the close of the reading as Peace Corps volunteers, East African leaders, professors and students alike all remarked on the Africa Erdman had conveyed with the few passages she shared. This was not the media's Africa. Erdman shared an Africa of joy and celebration as well as an Africa of heartbreak and pain. Above all, Erdman humanized Africa and presented an Africa the Western world rarely encounters. As Erdman herself noted at the close of the evening, "Perspective is everything."

Gioia masters art of poetry

By Edward Pickering

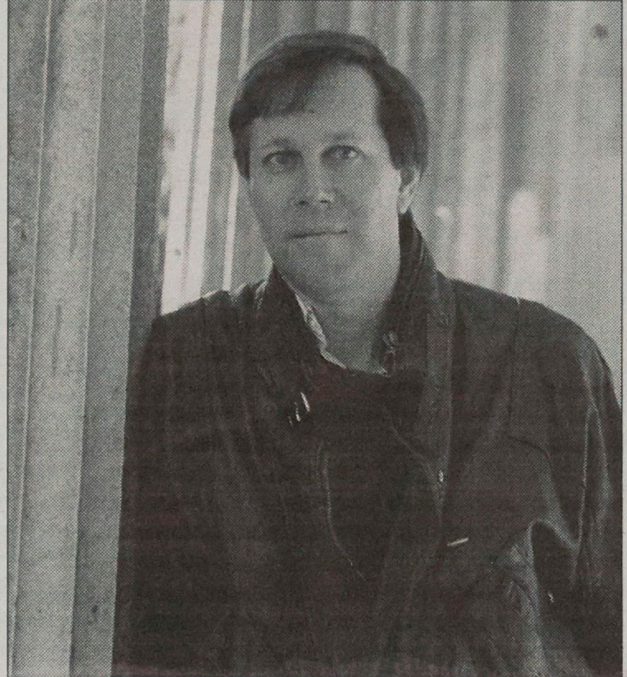
ARTS EDITOR

The acclaimed poet and current chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Dana Gioia delivered a reading comprised of about a dozen poems in the Chateau Grand Salon Monday evening.

Gioia, who declaimed his poems from memory, left the audience spellbound. Composed in simple language, they ranged over a number subjects, some playful, some serious. In all of them he demonstrated the absolute command of rhythm that has made him one of the country's premiere bards.

In brief introductions to the poems and during a question and answer session afterwards, Gioia shared his opinions on matters of artistic production, on both the individual and national level. He is equally well-respected as a critic and currently holds the highest public office in the arts, chairman of the NEA, for which he was nominated by President Bush in 2003 and unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

Gioia, who had recently broken his foot and alternately stood and sat, began and ended the evening by reciting "Un-



Courtesy

Poet, critic and chairman of the NEA, Dana Gioia wowed a Middlebury audience with a selection of his poetry.

said," a succinct poem whose evolution reflected the poet's artistic process. About the internal life of the individual, "Unsaid," which is less than 10 lines in length, began as a piece commissioned by National Public Radio to be read on New Year's Day. Initially, it was nearly 40 lines in length, but gradually dwindled as Gioia cut and reshaped it. Said Gioia, "I don't have a particularly productive or focused creative process."

"Words" addressed the limits of language, asserting that language can never replicate external reality. A credo of sorts, "Words" contained incredibly evocative lines and phrases, as in the almost negligent, "fluent leaves."

Gioia recited several humorous poems, including one he spoke in a faux-French accent. It presented a gallery of the leading French surrealists and used as a refrain two of their most absurd proverbs — "There is always a skeleton in the buffet" and "I came, I sat down and I went away." Another poem, addressed to a young cat purchased by its owner as a nuptial gift for a superannuated old tabby named Fred, reproduces the meter of a work by Tennyson in which a lover invokes his beloved. The result is a stunning combination of humorous subject matter and technical mastery. On more than one occasion Gioia asserted that no poem can exist but in dialogue with previous poems. "Every poem you write," said Gioia, "you write in collaboration."

Gioia exemplified this precept by punctuating the reading with the work of other poets, namely, Shakespeare and Omar Kayyam. He counseled aspiring poets in the audience to seize on two or three poets whom they enjoy and make those poets a passion. Finally, he said that memorization allows him always to have in readiness the poetry that supports and upholds him.

The unquestionable centerpiece of the reading, though, was "Planting a Sequoia," the elegy Gioia composed on the death of his infant, first-born son. The poem refers to the Sicilian custom of wrapping the umbilical cord of the firstborn around the roots of a tree, typically olive, as a symbolic way of rooting the next generation in the soil that has sustained previous generations. Gioia transposed the custom to northern California and altered it. Instead of an olive, he planted a sequoia, a giant among trees. The sequoia's immense lifespan symbolically extends that of the boy, transforming him from vanished atoms into a presiding, untouchable spirit.

As National Chairman of the NEA, Gioia is working to address a dwindling interest in the arts that cuts across all statistical groups. He said the NEA has traditionally focused solely on the "supply" side, bestowing grants without working to increase "demand" for the fruit of those grants.

Symphony Handel-s program

By Zoey Burrows

STAFF WRITER

Students and their parents filled the Concert Hall as The Vermont Symphony Orchestra (VSO) performed a program of Handel, Copland, Dvorak and the premiere of Dennis Bathory-Kitz's "Icecut" in the Center For the Arts Concert Hall Friday, Oct. 1.

Though small in comparison to other state and city symphonies, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra makes up for its less-than-average size with a warm stage presence, which is in large part the result of concertmaster Katherine Winterstein and principal cellist John Dunlop. Lacking percussion and boasting only small woodwind and brass sections, the VSO is a string-dominated orchestra, a fact reflected in their program and namely in the Dvorak piece which was written only for strings.

The evening commenced with a staple of the Baroque repertoire, George Frederick Handel's hour-long "Suite in F major from Water Music." It is widely believed that Handel wrote the piece, which dates from approximately 1717, in hopes of reconciling a rift with King George I. It is said, according to the program, that when the "the royal ears heard the marvelous serenade wafting across the water, and ascertained that the composer was none other than Handel, all was forgiven."

The "Suite" seemed to be a constant dialogue between the string section and the horns, with oboes and bassoons rivaling the first violins. Perhaps one of the most sublime melodies Handel ever wrote resides in the fourth movement, the Air, in which the horns play a romantic melody that must have awed its original audience.

Next on the program was Aaron Copland's "Quiet City" (1941), a short and uncharacteristically melodious piece for the composer. While Copland was known for serving up jarring, dissonant rhythms, by the mid-1930s he had shifted his style to incorporate folk tunes and easily-remembered melodies.

Copland struggled with the problem of how a composer in an age of mass media could reach a mass audience without sacrificing musical standards. He solved the dilemma by radically simplifying his style in 1936. In his

book "Music and Imagination," he explained that, "what you do with very plain materials is a different kind of challenge from what you do with complicated materials." Copland claimed that he did not intend to write more popular music, but music that would "better communicate with a broader audience."

After intermission the Symphony performed Dennis Bathory-Kitz's world premier of "Icecut," a piece that he wrote to embody the transition from winter to spring in Vermont. Beforehand, Bathory-Kitz emphasized that the piece is about "people who work very hard in the cold of Vermont," as he communicated through the technical difficulty in the strings, which "work hard as we do."

"Icecut" was fun and fast, with most of the musicians playing continuously throughout the string-heavy piece, for which Bathory-Kitz used horns only sparingly. The symphony both began and ended the piece with a calming bassoon solo.

The final piece of the evening, and perhaps the most moving, was Czechoslovakian composer Antonin Dvorak's "Serenade for Strings in E Major." Written in just 11 days in the spring of 1875, the piece consisted of five differing movements.

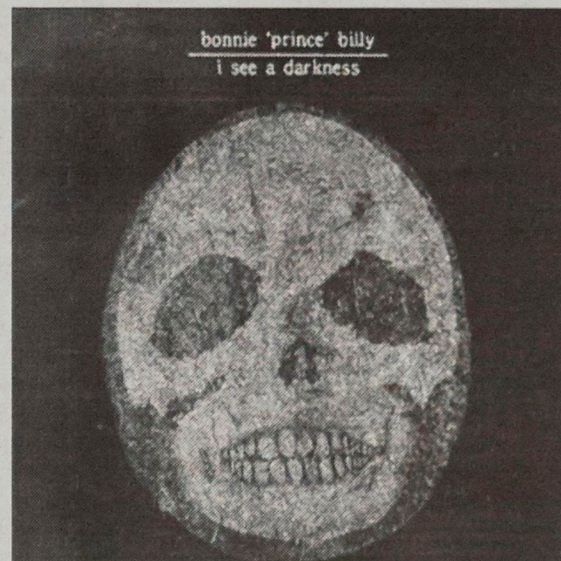
Once his career started to take off (with help from Brahms), Dvorak's music became a vehicle of nationalism, evident in the "Serenade," which was Slavonic in feeling. Each movement followed a three-part format, beginning with the Moderato, which progressed from romantic to exuberant to nostalgic.

The slow movement, the Larghetto was the most expressive, with "a basic mood of smoldering passion," as described by the program. The finale, the most complex of the movements sounded like a Slavonic dance, changing from major to minor keys repeatedly, with occasional dissonances that perhaps were trying to communicate the harshness of Dvorak's era.

There was also a crying and very familiar melody in the cellos, one of Dvorak's favorite instruments. The concert hall erupted in applause as the piece ended, concluding another highly successful VSO performance. Best of all, the musicians all hailed from our very own Vermont.

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY RICHARD LAWLESS, ARTS EDITOR



THE ARTIST | BONNIE "PRINCE" BILLY

THE ALBUM | I SEE A DARKNESS

RELEASE DATE | 1999

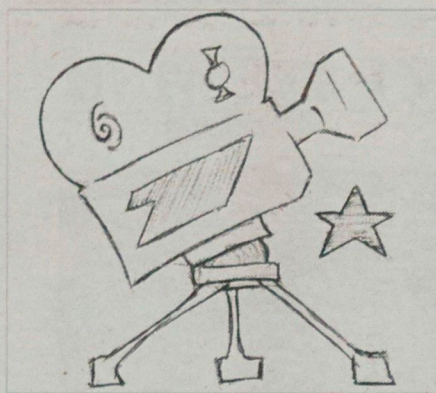
To claim that Will Oldham has an identity crisis would be an understatement. The enigmatic alt-folkster switched between numerous pseudonyms throughout the '90s, releasing a steady number of albums. The first of these Oldham incarnations is Palace, known alternatively as Palace Music, Palace Music and Palace Songs. Working alone, Oldham's warbly voice was usually accompanied only by eerie acoustic guitars. As he gained experience he slowly added an assembly of other musicians to strengthen his sound, which was notably bolder on Palace's 1995 album "Viva Last Blues". After releasing a couple albums under his own name, Oldham switched monikers again, and christened his current persona, Bonnie "Prince" Billy.

His second album under this name, 1999's "I See a Darkness" is undeniably his finest work, and remains one of the most enigmatic and strangely comforting releases of the past decade. From the title and the cover, one might expect something overly bleak and harrowing. But Oldham is certainly not that easy to pin down, and "I See a Darkness" is consequently full of a peculiar warmth and even a sneaking sensation of optimism.

Playing up his strange folksman image — something between an Appalachian troubadour and a creepy guy with a beard who lives in the woods and writes a lot of poetry — Oldham fashions a stunning album that seems to come from nowhere and then fade back into it.

Backed by brother Paul, Bob Arellano, Colin Gagnon, and Peter Townsend, the quintet do not launch so much as trot into the opening number, "A Minor Place," comprised of a quietly strummed electric guitar punctuated by minimal bursts of piano chords, and backed by a soft yet steady drumbeat. The chief focus of the song is Oldham's multi-tracked voice, which is heavily brought to the forefront. While the vocal warble that personified much of Oldham's earlier still persists here, it is notably subdued, giving the frontman's voice a much bolder presence as he sings "I've been to a minor place / And I can say I like it's face / If I am gone and with no trace / I will be in a minor place." Already Oldham's lyrical obscurity is prevalent, as well as an odd fusion of both warm and bleak elements. The music is sparse, but there is a certain warmth to it, especially in the rousing climax of "Nomadic Revery (All Around)" as a chorus of multi-tracked Oldham sing and whoop excitedly in the background. The album's greatest moment is its title-track, a piece one would expect to be pessimistic rather than optimistic in nature, but in reality is much too opaque to be classified as either. Shaped by delicate, minimalist guitars and piano, Oldham addresses an unknown person — is it a former lover? Or just a friend? The vagueness of lyrical refrains such as "And that I see a darkness / And did you know how much I love you / Is a hope that somehow you you / Can save me from this darkness" also allows them a universal applicability. It is easy for us to internalize Oldham's songs and make them our own, but the more we grasp for meaning in them, the more any tangibility eludes us.

The most raucous track on an otherwise sparse album, "Madeleine-Mary" benefits from thrusting production and more prominent guitars that propel the track. A heavily-reverbed lead guitar wobbles under Oldham's harmonized vocals. "Song for the New Breed" features lyrics by screenwriter Dianne Bellino and lead guitar by indie rock stalwart David Pajo, but otherwise the album remains an autonomous affair, save for the interplay between Oldham and his backing musicians. "I See a Darkness" is over much too quickly, with the last song suddenly ending after gathering steam over a steady minute-and-a-half. Yet the minimalism in length and in instrumentation adds to Oldham's allure. He remains a mystery to us, albeit one that produces some of the most haunting music of his generation.



THE REEL CRITIC

BY STEPHANIE DOSCH

MOVIE | MEAN GIRLS

DIRECTOR | MARK S. WATERS

STARRING | LINDSAY LOHAN, RACHEL MCADAMS, TINA FEY, TIM MEADOWS, AMY POEHLER, ANA GASTEYER

If you've ever been a teenage girl, you know that high school can get pretty nasty, and you will certainly be able to relate to "Mean Girls." If you haven't been a teenage girl, I have two words for you: Lindsay Lohan.

Lohan plays Cady Heron, who starts her junior year in high school not only new to the school, but new to the system as well. The daughter of two zoologists, Cady was home schooled for the past 16 years while she lived in Africa. Needless to say, she quickly learns that high school is just as much of a jungle as the wilds of Africa. On the second day her parents ask her how it went: "Were people nice?" "No," she replies. "Did you make any friends?" "Yeah."

Specifically, Janis and Damien, updated versions of Rayanne and Rickie, straight out of "My So-Called Life." They convince Cady to befriend and bring down the hated Plastics, the "teen royalty" who instantly remind us of the Heathers from the 80's movie of the same name.

The head Plastic, and the most despised, is Regina George, a fitting name for the tyrannical queen bee. She lives in a huge house, drives a nice car, and has a "cool mom" (played by Saturday Night Live's Amy Poehler), who looks like she fell out of a Juicy Couture catalogue. Regina, along with rich and spoiled Gretchen Wieners and dumb blonde Karen Smith rule the school with their strict guidelines about fashion, boys and accepted behavior.

Written by Saturday Night Live's Tina Fey (who also stars as Cady's math teacher), "Mean Girls" is downright funny, but in a clever, non-grossout way found in few teen movies ("Can't Hardly Wait" comes to mind). Fey adapted the story from Rosalind Wiseman's nonfiction book "Queen Bees and Wannabees," which examines teenage female social interaction. "Mean Girls" is therefore not only funny, but it is spot on when it comes to cliques, boys, gossip and everything else girls deal with.

Lohan is her usual magnetic self, daring us not to be drawn in, even when she becomes a total bitch. But that's the way the Plastics work — you hate them and you fear them, but at the same time you're awed and amazed.

Since "Mean Girls" is brought to us by Lorne Michaels, the producer of "Saturday Night Live" and written by Tina Fey, it follows that several SNL cast members have roles, including Tim Meadows as Mr. Duvall, the slightly sexy principal and Ana Gasteyer as Cady's mom. Even Jonathan Bennet, who plays Cady's love interest Aaron Samuels, has somewhat of a Jimmy Fallon look to him, and Coach Carr's advice to the students — "Don't have sex, 'cause you will get pregnant, and die" — sounds like something Will Ferrell would say.

"Mean Girls" is pure fun, a guilty pleasure, especially when things in the film get so bad you feel like you want to slap one of the characters. But don't worry, they all get their just desserts in the end.

"Mean Girls" will be shown on Friday, October 8 at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in Dana Auditorium as a part of the MCAB Free Friday Film Series.

The reconstruction of Rhodes

A classic Mediterranean memoir

Lawrence Durrell, brother of the famed English zoologist and author Gerald Durrell (who wrote, among other books, "My Family and Other Animals"), was a noted poet and novelist in his own right. And a travel writer. Durrell's recollection of life on the Greek isle of Rhodes during the Allied occupation and reconstruction following the end of World War II is a work of haunting beauty. The writing is so accomplished — the setting, so alluring — that your heart will ache with longing.

Part memoir, part guidebook and part history, "Reflections on a Marine Venus" introduces readers to the largest and most prominent of the Dodecanese, a chain of Greek islands lying off the coast of Turkey. A center of commerce and civilization for much of its history, Rhodes, by the time of Durrell's arrival, had seen a roll-call of inhabitants, invaders, Crusaders, pilgrims and, perhaps most importantly, devotees of beauty. Durrell evokes the landscape, diffused with millennia of history, so well that Rhodes seems to lose its concreteness as an extant isle and transform into a figure of beauty. That is, unless you have had the good fortune of actually visiting the island. Return-travelers speak one and the same — Rhodes really is an island lover's paradise.

The memoir begins as Durrell and a fellow British officer sail from Egypt bound for posts in the Allied administration of Greece. Durrell muses on a list of diseases "as yet unclassified by medical science" that he found in the notebook of Gideon, his fellow traveler — *Islomania*, "an affliction of spirit" suffered by those "who find islands somehow irresistible." Writes Durrell: "The mere knowledge that they are

LITERARY PICKS

BY EDWARD PICKERING
ARTS EDITOR

TITLE
REFLECTIONS ON A
MARINE VENUS

AUTHOR
LAWRENCE DURRELL
PUBLICATION DATE
1952

on an island, a little world surrounded by the sea, fills them with an indescribable intoxication. These born 'islomanes,' [Gideon] used to add, are the direct descendants

Part memoir, part guidebook and part history, "Reflections on a Marine Venus" introduces readers to the largest and most prominent of the Dodecanese, a chain of Greek islands lying off the coast of Turkey.

of the Atlanteans, and it is towards the lost Atlantis that their subconscious yearns throughout life."

Durrell found himself in charge of a printing press from which sprang newspapers in three languages — Greek, Turkish and Italian — bound for all the isles of the

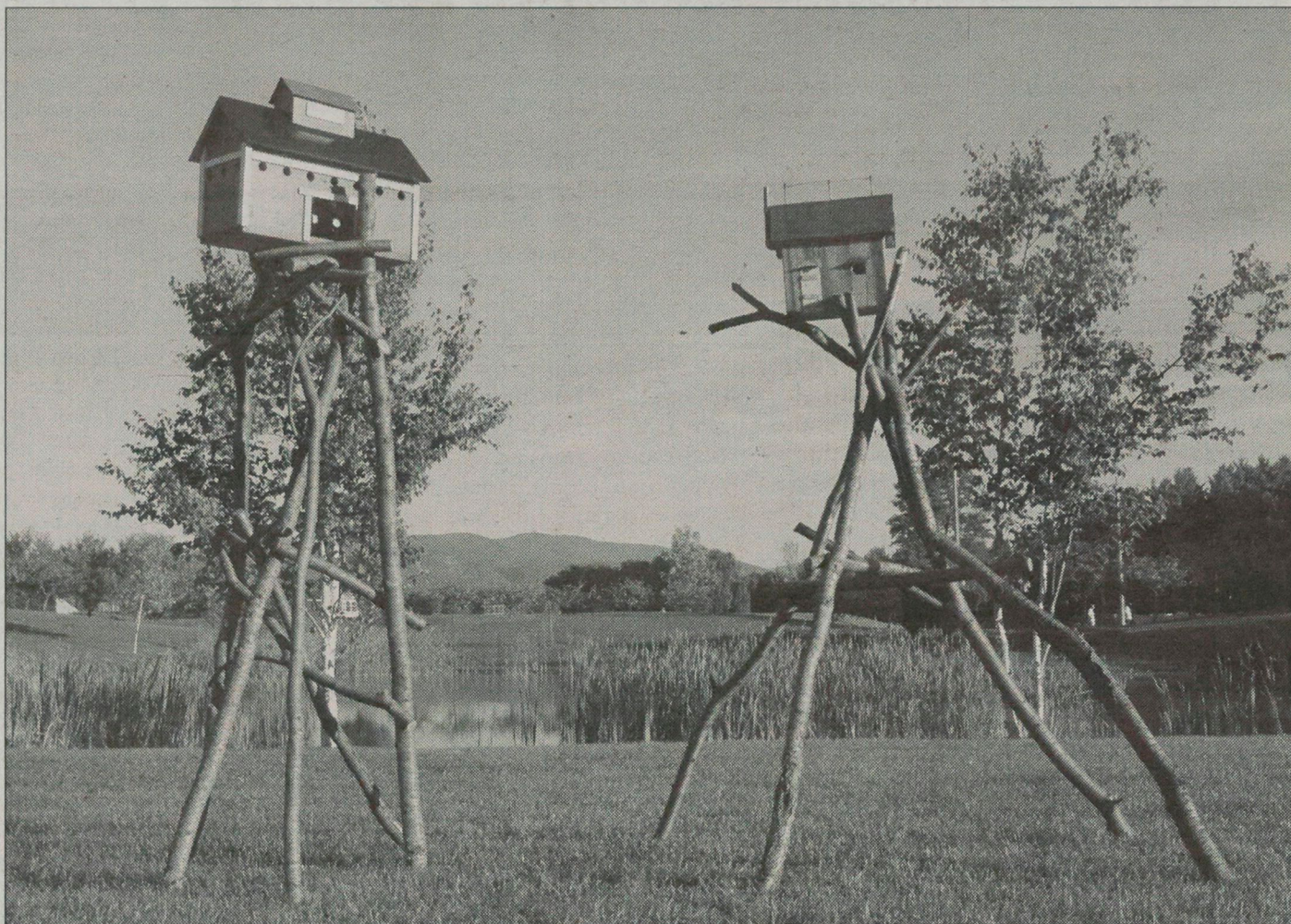
Dodecanese. The Greeks, he later learned, valued the newspapers primarily for their use as paper in which to wrap the day's catch from the sea. During his sojourn on Rhodes Durrell came face to face with the remnants of several ancient civilizations and the ragged, at times irascible, at times charming face of the Greek island-peasantry, a sect of humanity bound to a land the rest of the world sees mainly in terms of mythology and postcard-perfect vistas.

As the title states, "Reflections on a Marine Venus" is an extended contemplation. But it is also an homage. The central symbolic figure in the work is a fragment of ancient sculpture dredged from the Rhodes bay, a young girl that preserves in its eroded, truncated form a beauty more moving than the smoothest Parian marble. The Marine Venus haunts Durrell, who writes about her with customary eloquence:

"She sits in the Museum of the island now, focused intently upon her own inner life, gravely meditating upon the works of time. So long as we are in this place we shall not be free from her; it is as if our thoughts must be forever stained by some of her own dark illumination — preoccupation of a stone woman inherited from a past whose greatest hopes and ideals fell to ruins. Behind and through her the whole idea of Greece glows sadly, like some broken capital, like the shattered pieces of a grateful jar, like the torso of a statue to hope."

An elegy for a blessed time in the author's life, an extended encomium on Rhodes itself, a study in the art of writing visually — "Reflections on a Marine Venus" has to rank among the best books on Greece ever written.

BIRDHOUSE BACKDROP



Julia Randall

Appearing to be habitable but actually not, decorative birdhouses stand behind the Center for the Arts as part of the environmental set design by Carl Phelps for the Birdhouse Project, a collaborative work including original dance directed by Andrea Olsen.

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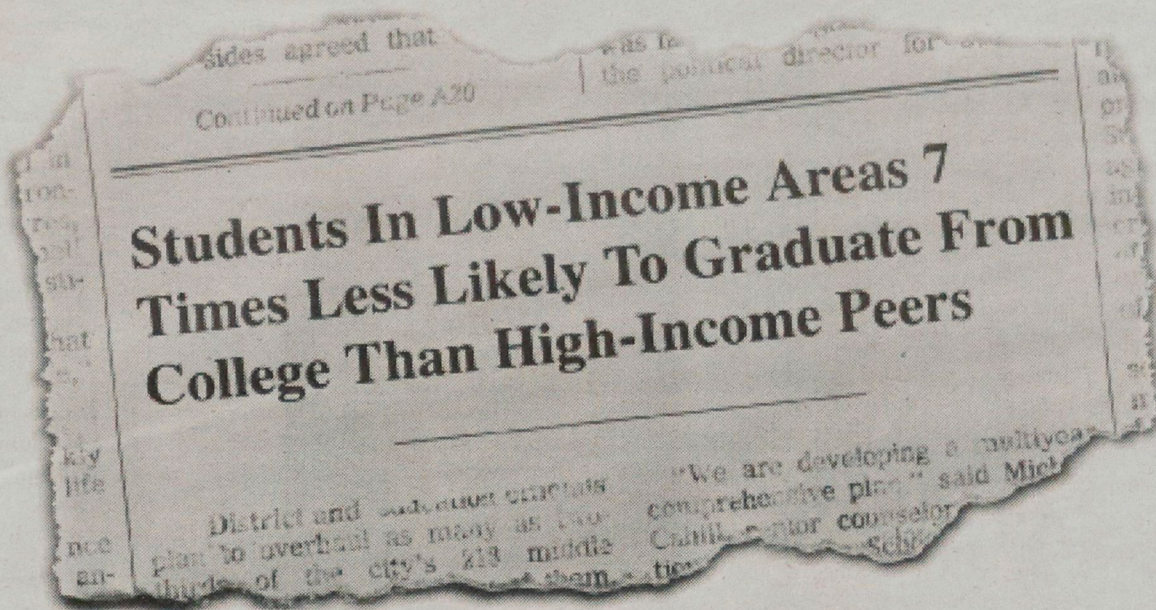
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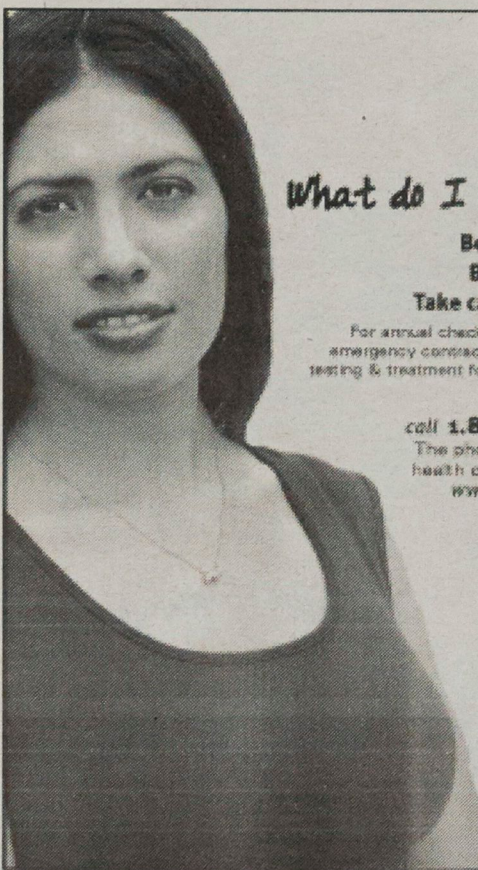
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Julia Randall

A Middlebury rugger, supported by his teammates, goes up for the ball during last Saturday's win over Babson.

Confident team primed to work

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

tured around the ideology of the Irish National Rugby Team — places teamwork as the cornerstone of the team's success.

Patterson echoed this belief. "We have so many new starters that we have to play as a team to go as far as we dream," he said. "Yes, some guys will score more points than others, but without a full team effort, nobody will shine."

The team certainly has shined in these first weeks of play. The Panthers defeated the University of Vermont at home on Sept. 18, 15-12, in a close match, but it was at Williams that the team truly came together. The Panthers triumphed in the Williams game 38-3, showing the full extent of their potential.

"[The Williams game] set the tone for the rest of the season," said Losambe, "and this weekend's success only furthered the club's reputation as a solid team."

"We've always had a strong team, a strong program here," said Smith. "We lost a lot of starters last year, both in the spring and in February."

With a lot of new faces on the field, he said the players have been, "waiting to see how the team's going to solidify. Things have been clicking during the last two games."

"The bond we have as players,

it's what rugby's all about," Losambe said. "We're all playing for each other."

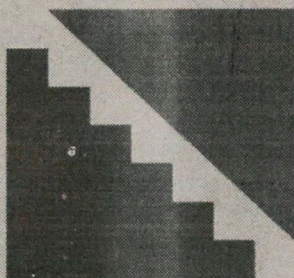
With a program centered around the whole team, and with a roster of men dedicated to the sport, Patterson is "confident that Middlebury will be proud of this team's results, wherever we end up." And continuing at the rate the Panthers are currently going, the team's results should prove quite impressive.

"We can look ahead with confidence," said Patterson, following the triumph over Babson.

The team plays next this Saturday, Oct. 9, at St. Michael's. Towards the end of the month, the team may earn the right to host the New England Quarter Finals at home. Other exciting milestones in the future could include the New England Championships, the North East Territorial Quarter Finals and the North East Territorial Championships.

Whatever the outcome of upcoming games, Losambe, as well as the rest of the team, is excited for the rest of the season. Beyond winning, the team is focused on working hard and moving as a strong unit. They hope to bring the intensity of recent games to the field in upcoming weeks.

"Going 11-0 this season will take a lot of hard work, but on any given day the Middlebury ruggers will be ready and strong," said Losambe.

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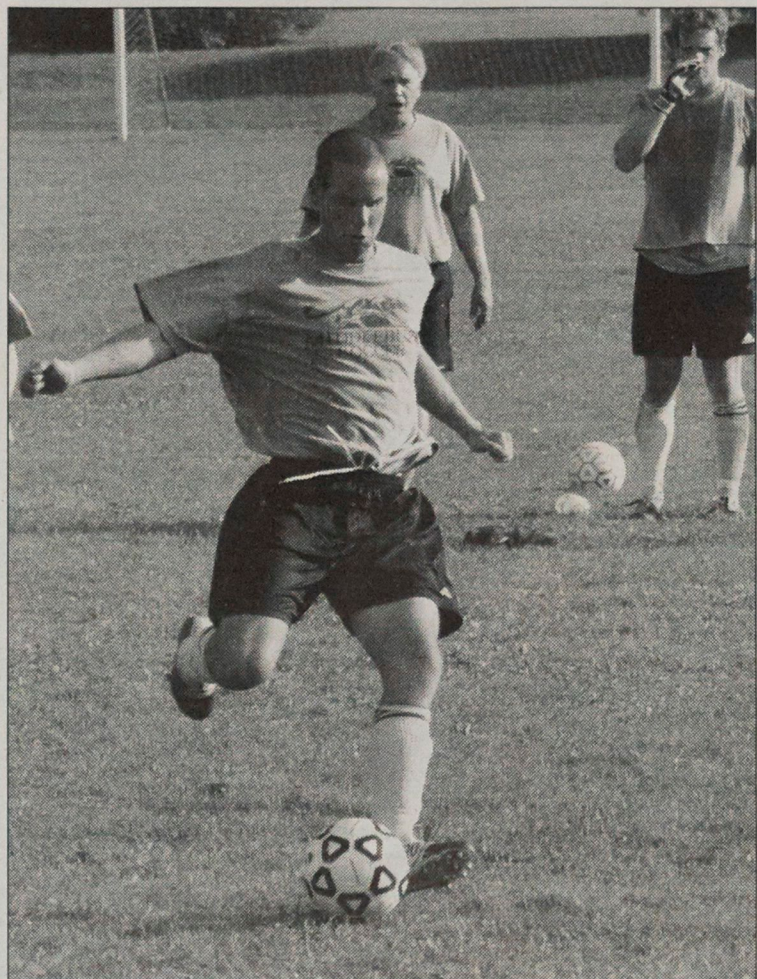
GIVE ME AN "M"



Julia Randall

At halftime of the rugby game, the cheerleaders mimic a rugby formation. The squad looks forward to an exciting year in competition.

Men's soccer stumbles to 4th



Julia Randall

John Rusten '05 boots a ball during practice. The senior forward has become an offensive force — he leads the team in goals as well as total points.

By David Freedman
STAFF WRITER

The men's soccer team's weekend in Maine did not yield the results the Panthers wanted, but it certainly was not for a lack of effort. With a 2-2 tie against a determined Colby squad on Saturday and a 1-0 loss to Bowdoin the following Sunday, the Panthers had a precipitous fall from the top of the NESCAC standings.

Middlebury dropped from a first place tie in the league to a lonely fourth.

"We played our hearts out," tri-captain John Rusten '05 said of the trip. "After J.B. [Gerber '05] scored against Colby we seemed to take our foot off the accelerator and that allowed them to get back into it. The chances were about even in the Bowdoin game. I don't think we deserved to lose, but in the end we just couldn't find the net."

The Panthers wasted no time jumping all over the White Mules, scoring the game's first goal only 10 minutes in when Gerber drove home his third of the season off a pass from Winston Rains '07. Middlebury controlled the match for most of the first half, but lost some momentum when they ended up giving Colby a direct kick outside the 18-yard box with three minutes left on the clock. Keeper Craig Hirsh '05 could not make the save on the ensuing shot, giving up his first goal of the season.

Kellan Florio '05 righted the ship nine minutes in to the second half, putting the Panthers up 2-1 after forward Matt Haddad '05 fed him a pass. In the 60th minute Colby evened the game for good as Middlebury could not add another score through the rest of regulation or the two overtime periods.

"Colby got what they deserved, we had the lead twice and gave it away," Head Coach Dave Saward

said. "I am not going to give out any excuses. They are improved and played very well."

Middlebury headed to Brunswick, Maine that afternoon for its Sunday match against a Bowdoin team that had just suffered its first loss of the season to Amherst on its home field.

The Panthers entered the contest facing a potent offense from the Polar Bears without the services of three-year starter Gabe Wood '06, an athletic defender who was injured the previous day against Colby.

Both squads had solid opportunities in the early going, but Bowdoin capitalized on a deflected shot for the game's only goal in the 26th minute. A Polar Bear forward broke free on net from the left corner of the 18 and sent a ball on goal that Hirsh made the initial save on, but allowed a rebound that Bowdoin tapped in for the 1-0 lead.

Jake Whitted '06 — stepping in for the injured Wood — helped lead a powerful Panther defense that kept Middlebury in the game in the second half. But as the Panthers poured on the heat in the waning minutes of the game, they couldn't find the finishing touch as David LaRocca '08 hit a post and Florio sent a ball over the bar with no one between him and the goal.

"I felt that both teams played well and on the run of play a draw would have been a fair result" Saward said of the match. "But we squandered a couple of late opportunities, and one could argue the 'soccer gods' were just not on our side on Sunday."

Middlebury will get its first shot at climbing back up the NESCAC standings at home on Oct. 9 against the first-place Lord Jeffs of Amherst. The Panthers look to run their home-winning streak against Amherst to three straight in a match set to begin at 12:30 p.m.

Shorthanded XC team repeats

By Stacey Wong
STAFF WRITER

For the second year in a row the Middlebury men proved they are Vermont's premiere men's cross-country team when they won the Vermont state title this weekend. Garrot Kuzzy '06 finished first overall to pace the Panthers, which were competing without five of their top runners. This is the third Vermont state title in as many years for the men's team.

Kuzzy beat out rival Jeremiah Bias of Lyndon State to win his first race of the season with a time of 26:42. Kuzzy's time set a new course record at Johnson State College, where the race was held, by almost two minutes.

The rest of Middlebury's scoring team consisted of Bryce Roche '05 and Matt Horesta '06, who finished fourth and fifth respectively, followed by Sean Lena '07 in seventh and Baker Lyon '06 in 12th place.

"The team raced like champions at the state meet. The team showed its depth, winning the race despite having five of the team's top

runners cheering from the sidelines in preparation for next week's Open New England Championships. Practices on Middlebury's Chipman Hill prepared the men for the hilly, technical terrain at Johnson State. Everyone on the team knew the pressure was on to defend our team title and bring the state championship trophy back to Middlebury," Kuzzy said after the race.

The race was really a duel between Middlebury and Lyndon State. The Hornets took second and third place after Kuzzy came in first. Middlebury answered with two of its runners finishing fourth and fifth, and Lyndon responded with a runner in sixth.

Then the Panthers pulled away by taking seventh and 12th place for a final score of 29 points. Lyndon guaranteed itself second place in the meet by taking 11th and 14th place for a score of 36.

The Panther team looks good heading into the latter half of their season. After settling for second twice this year, the team finally broke its streak and got the first place title they have been shooting for. The fact that they did it with-

out their regularly scoring runners showed how strong and deep the team is this year. The impressive outing should give the team confidence going into more competitive meets in the coming weeks.

Kuzzy has been Middlebury's top finisher in each of the previous races this season and should continue to pace the team in the coming weeks. The Panthers are also looking forward to the long anticipated return of co-captain Jon Erwin '05.

In addition to Erwin, Middlebury was without co-captain Nick Digani '05, Will McDonough '07, Jimmy Butcher '08 and Nolan Sandygren '06. Each was out either due to injury or in preparation for the New England Championship meet this Friday. That meet will take place at Franklin Park in Boston.

"We are going into Open New England's with no expectations as a team. It will be an exciting weekend because we hopefully will have our full varsity toe the line, ready to fight. That race will give us a good indication of how strong we'll be going into the championship half of the season," Kuzzy said about the upcoming event.



Julia Randall

The men's cross-country team captured their second straight state title despite missing five runners to injury.

Team sheds blood in wins

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

the minor setback, Boglioli and her teammates recharged that evening in preparation for Bowdoin the next day.

On Sunday, the Panthers found themselves back on turf, where, as their record indicates, they are accustomed to domination.

To set the mood of the day, Bowdoin's warm-up tape played the familiar U2 tune "Bloody Sunday," which turned out to be an eerie foreshadowing of the events to come.

Following senior Ashley Hall's first collegiate goal in the first half on a corner, the Polar Bears were able to re-group and come back strong to tie the game.

The ensuing atmosphere, in

which each team scrambled to seal the deal, was described by Mackey as the "end of regulation madness." Amidst the chaos in what seemed to be a repeat of the previous day's unfortunate mishap, a member of the opposing squad nailed Mackey in the lip as she went down for a block tackle.

However, once again met with adversity, the Panthers rose above the circumstances and persevered. As Mackey rushed off the field, junior Emily McNeil came to the rescue in what her teammates characterized as a "stellar, clutch performance."

Another shining star was Middlebury goalie Meg McGillen '07, who strung together seven saves in the second half alone.

After two full halves of cut-

throat competition, the teams went into an exhausting overtime of seven on seven. With 1:56 left, Weymouth snuck a pass to Nicasio, who jammed it between the goalie's pads to give Middlebury the win and put Bowdoin out of their misery.

Weymouth captured the mood when she said, "It was a really great match up of two teams fighting to the finish, giving it everything they've got, sweating it out, pushing the envelope and digging deep."

It seems the Panthers dug deep enough last weekend to realize a double burial in which both opposing teams put up valiant efforts.

At the end of the day, Middlebury walked away unscathed, yet with the solemn hope that their fallen opponents may rest in peace.



Another Look

BY DAVID FREEDMAN

Despite a disappointing 23-6 loss to Colby on Saturday, the Middlebury College football team still has plenty to play for in the six games remaining on its schedule. The sheer love of playing football will drive the Panthers to keep their heads high, especially with Homecoming serving as an immediate motivator. The competitive nature of the team's athletes and the determination to finish above .500 for the first time in four years will certainly make this week's practices rigorous. But how much more incentive would there be for a team like Middlebury's — where hopes of winning the NESCAC outright are made unrealistic in only the year's second game — if there was a form of postseason play?

As NESCAC schools' academic calendars stand now it is not very likely that league members would ever be able to join in the Division III Championships — the finals take place just a week before Christmas. But it's doubtful that member schools would even want to join in the D-III tournament if they did choose to participate in a postseason. Since the conference's inaugural year in 1971, the league has taken pride in fielding competitive football teams while ensuring that the athletes are still full-fledged members of their school's student body. Prolonging the eight game schedules with playoffs, in the eyes of opponents of postseason play, will add to an already grueling season that takes students' minds out of the classroom for too long anyways.

There is also a strong sense of tradition in NESCAC football that there is no need for postseason play. A *Sports Illustrated* article by Douglas Looney entitled "Pure and Simple," published in October of 1994, conveys just how much the NESCAC athletes buy into the idea of playing for the almost "quaint" reasons to compete: it's fun.

For these reasons the presidents of league schools have kept the idea of postseason play at bay. As nice as it is to watch my friends leave everything they have out on the field on Saturdays, I think it would be a heck of a lot more fun and interesting to see the league have a conference championship. That way, a loss like Middlebury's most recent one, would not be so devastating.

I would prefer to see a playoff with the top four teams earning a berth after the regular season schedule, but the reality is that system would take two weeks to crown a champion and would run right through Thanksgiving. It is much more plausible to have a bowl-style championship game between the top two teams that would take place with a week to spare before Turkey day.

As recently as 2000 there was three-way tie for first between Amherst, Colby and Middlebury. How much more fun would it be if the teams could get a second shot at each other? But this time around the outright title would be on the line.

Women runners crowned champs

By Chris Dowd
STAFF WRITER

The women's cross-country team cruised to an easy victory this weekend in the Vermont State Championships. The team claimed the top 17 spots of the race in an unbelievable display of dominance over the rest of the Vermont field. Johnson State hosted the event and the Middlebury women ran together in a fervent manner after last weekend's slightly disappointing finish at Williams.

Sophomore Andrea Giddings led the pack of Panthers, finishing in first place with an impressive time of 20:44, while junior Kelsey Rinehart (20:57) followed closely behind in second. Senior captain Marissa Cawley (21:11.3) ran her first race of the year for an impressive third and Evelyn Dong '07 (21:11.6) made her presence felt in an extremely strong fourth place performance. Fellow sophomore Stephanie Nugent (21:13) rounded out the top five of the race, and 12 Middlebury women finished consecutively behind her in the team's decisive victory.

The Vermont championships acted as the perfect workout for next weekend's New England championships, one of the season's biggest races for the women. Coach Terry Aldrich said the team "took a mature approach to this weekend's event, even knowing the competition was weaker, they did not take anything lightly and ran hard in serious preparation for next weekend's race."

Johnson State's rugged terrain provided a fitting ending to the squad's intensive hill training of the

past month. A tough course for most, the Middlebury women were able to cut through the course with relative ease.

Junior Kelsey Rinehart commented, "It was an extremely difficult and rough course, but it was inspiring that when you turn the corner there is a sea of Middlebury runners. The whole event was really a big boost of confidence."

The race led perfectly into the upcoming events as key runners Jess Manzer '05, Erin Archard '07 and Ellie Buechner '08 were able to treat nagging injuries, and the rest of the team could put an exclamation point on a hard month of training.

The New England Championships are held on a flat course in Franklin Park, Boston, and the Panthers anticipate exploding onto the scene. The event features the biggest and best colleges and universities from all around New England, including Harvard, Yale, University of Massachusetts and many other powerful Division I and Division II teams.

The Middlebury women finished second in the event last year in what Aldrich called, "one of our strongest performances ever." This year's team looks to follow that trend and really blast into the remainder of the season.

The women leave for Boston on Thursday and begin racing Friday at noon. This week should act as a bit of a resting week, and then the true grind begins towards repeating as national champions — a daunting yet exciting task for this group of talented runners.



Courtesy

Running her first race of the year, senior Marissa Cawley picked up third place in last Friday's Vermont State meet at Jackson St. College.

Football fumbles under pressure

By Blake Saville
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury football team traveled to Waterville, Maine this past Saturday to play the Colby White Mules. Despite an inspired effort, the Panthers could not move the ball consistently enough on offense and fell 23-6.

Just like last weekend, a first-quarter turnover put Middlebury in the hole early. A Mike Keenan '05 fumble set the Colby offense up on the three-yard line. The White Mule's running back Nial DeMena proceeded to punch it in from there to put Colby up 7-0 with 2:41 re-

maining in the first quarter.

Last weekend against Bowdoin the Panthers were able to overcome an early deficit with a quick touchdown drive. This week though was a different story. The Colby defense proved to be a much stiffer test as they limited the options Middlebury had on offense.

Senior wide-out Tom Cleaver commented on the Colby defense: "Colby's front seven were really tough. We had a tough time getting a running game started, which made it difficult."

Indeed, Middlebury failed to establish any sort of a running game in this one and that put tremendous

pressure on Keenan and company to make big plays through the air. The Panthers managed only 44 yards on the ground in 25 carries. The White Mule defense was able to turn Middlebury into a one-dimensional offense.

Middlebury did have the opportunity to go into the locker room down just 10-0. But the Panthers defense could not stop Colby on their last drive of the half. With just 30 seconds remaining, White Mule quarterback Justin Smith connected with DeMena for a 10-yard touchdown pass, and Middlebury found themselves suddenly down 16-0 at halftime.

Credit should be given to the Panthers here as they rebounded from that late touchdown and came out in the second half ready to play. The defense forced a Colby fumble early in the third quarter to set up good field position for the Panther offense. Four plays later Keenan hit sophomore tight end Jamie Staples for a three-yard scoring strike. That made it 16-6 with plenty of time left in the game. But Middlebury just could not put together anymore consistent drives.

Cleaver added, "The Colby front seven did not allow Mike a lot of time to throw. They were able to get a good rush, and prevent us from throwing the ball downfield consistently."

Keenan did end with 207 passing yards, but on 41 attempts. He completed only 51 percent of his passes and this lack of efficiency can be attributed to the inability to run the ball. Middlebury is a pass first offense this year. But if they cannot develop a consistent running game to complement it, it is going to be a long season for Keenan and company.

It was not all bad news for the Panthers though. With the exception of that costly fumble in the first quarter, they did limit their turnovers in this game.

Also, the Panthers came out in the second half with enthusiasm and kept this game within reach until late in the fourth quarter. If they can put together a little bit more of a consistent and balanced offense, the defense should be able to keep them in most games. The next test will be this Saturday against Amherst at Alumni Field.



Julia Randall

The Panthers got back to practice Monday to gear up for this weekend's homecoming game against Amherst.

Fujii fuels Panthers to top

By Simon Behan
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury women's soccer took their immaculate 5-0 record on the road to Maine this weekend to beat both the Colby White Mules and the Bowdoin Polar Bears.

Colby, still looking for their first NESCAC win, came out strong and made the game tough for the Panthers in the beginning. Each team found it tough to create anything concrete in terms of legitimate scoring chances, but just before half-time Brittany Cronin '05, who looked set to score, set up fellow co-captain Mayo Fujii '05 who side-footed home from close range to give the Panthers a hard-earned lead.

Much of the same gridlock was to follow in the second half with Colby still very much a part of the game until a skilled play by Fujii gave Middlebury the win. After midfielder Ainsley Close '05 slot-

ted a ball through to Fujii, she clinically tucked it away into the bottom corner with a left-footed strike for her second goal of the game.

Laura Kwoh '07, added a long range effort toward the end of 90 minutes to bolster her impressive individual performance before a brief defensive lapse gifted the home side a goal.

In the game against Colby, the Panthers displayed some of the necessary discipline needed to extend their season's fast start. At times they will face opponents that they outmatch significantly, and it takes character and resolve to not play down to their level.

The girls did not have to wait too long, however, for that challenge, as it stood only a day away in the form of Bowdoin, off to a 2-1 start in NESCAC play. It was clear from the outset that the Polar Bears were not going to surrender their home soil without a huge effort.

They took the game to the Pan-

thers early and went close numerous times in a scoreless first half. Middlebury, however, rose to the challenge and created some chances of its own, forcing Bowdoin goalkeeper Anna Shapell to make five saves of her own in the first half.

In the opening minutes of the second half, Bowdoin took the lead after a mix-up at the heart of the Middlebury defence, and it was clear that the grit and determination of this Panthers team was once again to be tested.

With almost 15 minutes left to play, Middlebury answered. Erin Pittenger '07, who had not played in Saturday's game at Colby due to injury, rifled a long range effort into the right corner to earn the travelling squad a hard-fought tie.

With a win and a tie in the bag, the girls currently sit atop the NESCAC table with a record of 6-0-1. Next up is the visit of Amherst, who are in second place behind the Panthers.



Albert Bitici

Defender Caitlin Matthews '07 goes for the ball during a recent game. The team sits atop the NESCAC standings.

Tufts no match for tennis

By Heather Wright
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury College women's tennis team continued their undefeated NESCAC season after winning a key victory on Sunday at Tufts. The Panthers defeated Tufts 6-3 during the intense meet, which marked the Panthers' first win against Tufts that "anyone could remember," said Emily Holick '07.

Last year Middlebury competed with Tufts closely, but Tufts managed to come out ahead with a 5-4 victory over the Panthers. "The feeling of coming so close to beating one of the best teams in our conference set the tone of this weekend's meet-up well before the match was even played. We would not let it slip away like last year," said Amy Roche '07.

The Panthers were ecstatic with their victory on Sunday. "The level of intensity and focus throughout the entire match was what lead the team to victory. Each player fought hard for every point and our desire to win was imperative. This match was one of the biggest matches for the fall season and I think that the outcome really sets the tone for the rest of the year," Roche said. Another cause for enthusiasm was

that Middlebury's two captains who graduated last spring, Jena Siegel '04 and Sandy Spring '04, both drove three hours to cheer on their old teammates and were thrilled to see the Panthers' victory.

This weekend, the Middlebury women also received the award for the classiest team in Division III, more commonly called the best sportsmanship award. Throughout their very successful fall season, the Panthers have consistently shown respect for their opponents while managing to end up on top at the end of their matches.

"As a team, we do take each match one at a time, and never underestimate any other team's ability. We treat each match with just as much importance as the one before," said Roche.

While beating Tufts, the Middlebury double's teams continued to show their strength as both the Panthers' number one and number two double's teams beat Tufts. Claire Smyser '07 and Jackie Ross '07 defeated the number one Tufts team 8-5. Meanwhile, Roche and Amanda Berck '08 won in a close match, 8-6. Julie Weinberger '08 and Holick fell to the number three Tufts team in a match, that went into a tiebreaker

resulting in a 9-8 loss.

The Panthers won four out of six singles matches to cement the victory. Number one and number two singles, Smyser and Roche respectively, lost to Tufts, but Middlebury's third through sixth single's players were able to beat Tufts decisively.

"Berck was flawless at number three singles and Jackie Ross came back from an injury to play number four singles, meanwhile beating a fierce Tufts player. Captain Lauren Ready '05 was the last singles player to finish and won an intense match," Holick said. Amy Berkman '08, at number six singles, also contributed to the team's victory with a 6-4, 6-4 win over her opponent.

"Each member of the team played aggressively and made her opponent work for every point. If Tufts was going to win, they were going to have to work for it — we were not going to hand it to them," Roche said.

In beating Tufts, Middlebury made a decisive statement to the rest of the NESCAC teams that they are not to be overlooked, which their undefeated status proves. The Panthers travel to Maine this weekend to take on Colby and Bates.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY DANIEL INADOMI, ANDREA GISSING, JASON LOCKHART

Men's polo defeats Big Green

This past weekend the Middlebury men's water polo team traveled to Dartmouth to take on the University of Vermont and the host school. It was an exciting weekend of play for the Panthers during which they won three out of four games.

The first game in particular was a huge victory for the Panthers as they topped Dartmouth University by a score of 10-9. This was the first ever win over the Big Green in men's water polo history. Dartmouth jumped to an early one-goal lead, but the Panthers were able to rally for two goals and take a lead that they never gave up. Satoshi Kido '08 and Alex Demas '06 both had great games and were the teams' leading scorers. Additionally Adam Rahal '05 played very well defensively. Later that afternoon the Panthers pounced on the UVM Catamounts for an easy victory.

The next day, the Panthers took on the Big Green once again, but ran into a bit of trouble as they fell 9-7. Dartmouth jumped to an early four-goal lead during a span of two minutes — a deficit that the Panthers were not able to overcome. After the loss, the Panthers played took another easy win over UVM.

The team will play at home this Saturday against Williams, and then again against Dartmouth in two weeks. The winner of the Dartmouth game will determine who will play in club Nationals at Notre Dame.

Au Revoir Montreal Expos

Middlebury students who have ventured north to get their baseball fix in the fall and the spring will have to start looking elsewhere. The Montreal Expos will be the Montreal Expos no longer, as the team prepares to move to Washington, D.C. for the 2005 baseball season. This will be the first time in 33 years that D.C. has a major league club.

The Expos played their last game in Montreal on Wednesday, Sept. 29. They had the largest crowd of the season at Olympic Stadium, with 31,395 fans in attendance, but the Expos lost to the Florida Marlins 9-1.

Due to financial troubles, baseball has been looking for a new home for the Expos since 2002, when the team was bought out by the other 29 major league owners.

For next three seasons, the team will play in RFK Stadium, which will be refurbished for \$13 million. During this time, a new ballpark with a price tag of approximately \$440 million will be built along the Anacostia River provided that the D.C. City Council approves the plans.

Golfers take their best shot

The women's golf team bowed to the tough competition, which included three of the top 10 finalists from last year's Northeast Championship, and to a more difficult course this weekend to place fourth out of seven teams at the Wellesley Invitational. The team had hoped to continue their early season success but could not replicate the winning scores or attitude of last weekend's Williams College Invitational.

"We didn't have the focus and concentration that we had last weekend, which is very unfortunate because this tournament was much more important than last weekend's at Williams," said Heather Gallagher '07, who led the way for the Panthers by placing eighth out of 41 competitors with a two-day total score of 175.

The Panthers finished the first day eight strokes behind the host team, Wellesley, who eventually won the tournament and edged out their Massachusetts rival, Mount Holyoke College. "Going into Sunday, we were only eight shots back from the lead and we knew we had the ability to be on top," explained Kerry Ortega '07 who shot a two-day score of 180. "We did not step up when we had to do so. That was disappointing."

Wellesley finished with a two-day total of 686 followed by Mount Holyoke at 692, Amherst College at 697 and Middlebury at 717. Mount Holyoke, Amherst and Wellesley placed sixth, seventh and eighth respectively at last year's Northeast Championship held at Amherst.

The high scores from this weekend, compared to last weekend's low rounds at Williams showed the tough nature of the course. The Wellesley golf course has only nine holes, which meant players had to play the same hole four times in one weekend. This situation should have proved beneficial to players unfamiliar with the course, but according to Ortega, "Wellesley is a deceptively tricky course where you have to minimize your mistakes. There is a fair amount of water and hazards on the course and a lot of places that you can get into trouble. The greens are for the most part very small so they were fairly hard to stick."

The young team's lack of experience also may have factored into the team's struggles with the difficult course. "The freshmen now have experience playing Nehoidan Golf Course and I know we will come back to Wellesley next year with renewed motivation to win," said Gallagher. "This weekend will motivate us to step up our practice schedule, focusing on putting especially."

The women's team will travel back to Williams next weekend for their final tournament of the season, while the men's team will be at Hamilton College for the Shenedoah Invitational.

"I am optimistic that we will do well in our last tournament on Sunday of next weekend," said Gallagher. Ortega added, "A strong performance at Williams would be a great way to end [the fall] and lead us into the spring season."

campusports

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2004

Men ruggers topple Babson 41-7



Julia Randall

The Middlebury rugby team's emphasis on teamwork has helped them get off to a 3-0 start. St. Michaels will host the Panthers this weekend.

By Katie Flagg
STAFF WRITER

Playing to one of the largest crowds in recent years, the Middlebury men's rugby club charged ahead with its season, winning its third game and defending its undefeated streak. The team soundly defeated the Babson Beavers on Saturday with a stellar 41-7 win.

"We went out on Saturday not knowing what to expect," said sophomore Pascal Losambe. Babson is new to Middlebury's division, and prior to Saturday, the Babson team posted respectable scores against other teams.

Middlebury students and team supporters turned out in

full force on Saturday to watch the game. "We had a huge crowd," said junior Clark Smith, who plays wing for the club team. The team treated their spectators to an exciting match.

"After the kick off we went out firing — tackling anything that came our way, running with determination and remembering the simple things that our coach and captains emphasized before the game. Babson proved to be no match for the strategy and preparedness that we brought to the game," said Losambe.

"There was quite an amazing pass from Losambe during the first five minutes of the game

that got a great reaction from the crowd," said Smith. "It set the tempo for the rest of the game." This pass, which resulted in a try, certainly did kick off a series of exciting plays.

"Both the A and B sides played well," said coach Ward Patterson. "The A side was on fire the first half, opening up a 34-0 lead. This put the game out of reach, and we were able to use some of our subs."

The Babson defense could not keep up with Middlebury's force, and the Beavers lagged for the entire game. Middlebury took the lead early on and, pressing their advantage, never let up on

their opponents.

"Our rugby alums and parents were present, so we were determined to honor them because they taught us to how to play and love the game of rugby," Losambe, a center for the team and a member of the team's key leadership, said. "We also wanted to put Middlebury College's rugby program, which has been overshadowed by the other varsity sports, on the map."

Considering the team's strong reliance on teamwork, the club should continue to do well. This year's team philosophy — struc-

SEE CONFIDENT, PAGE 28

Men's tennis grabs ITA tourn.

By Timothy Cavanaugh
STAFF WRITER

With the fall tournament schedule winding down, the Middlebury men's tennis team has yet to disappoint. Their impressive run, which includes a national title, continued this weekend at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Northeast Regional (ITA Regional), which was hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), as three Panthers made their way into the winner's circle.

Brian Waldron '06 captured the men's singles title from a field of 64 entrants, and the sophomore tandem of George Mayer and Kevin Bergesen took the doubles crown to lead the Panthers. With the victories, all three are assured of a spot in the National Small College Men's Tennis Championships on Oct. 14-17 in Fort Myers, Fla.

Waldron attributes part of his success to an opportune draw. "I was fortunate, I had a lucky draw," he said. "It really allowed me to conserve energy, and capitalize on that towards the end of the day."

After three straight-set victories brought him to the semifinals, Waldron pulled out a 7-6, 3-6, 6-2 win over Amherst College's Danny Babkes before upsetting top ranked Evan Tindell of MIT in the finals, 6-3, 1-6, 6-3.

Despite never having played together, Mayer and Bergesen claimed the doubles title by defeating the pairing of Mac Burke and Garrett Gates of Bowdoin College in the finals, 8-5. The duo received a scare in the second round, but held on to overcome the team of Tindell and Tom Dohlman, 9-8.

"We had never been paired together, but when we saw our draw we knew we had a pretty good chance to win," Bergesen commented.

In addition to the success of Waldron, Mayer and Bergesen, several other Panthers played strongly. Captain Nathan Edmunds '06 advanced to the semifinals in the singles bracket before falling to Tindell, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1. Mayer and Salih Unsal '08 both reached the quarterfinal round in singles before bowing out.

Waldron was impressed by the overall play of the team throughout the tournament. "We looked really good this weekend," he said. "[Unsal], a first-year, took out the second seed in the tournament to [Trinity's Brian Marsden], which is very impressive. We're just playing a lot better now than we were at this point last year," Waldron continued.

Bergesen agreed. "I thought it was incredible, everyone looked a lot better out there than last year," he said.

As the fall season is now virtually over — all that remains is the Bates Invitational on Oct. 9-10 — the team is turning its focus to the important spring schedule and a defense of last year's title.

"[The ITA Regional] was a great way to end the fall season, to go out on top," Bergesen remarked. "We are going to have a ton of confidence heading into the spring season."

Waldron expressed the same sentiments. "The way we've played this fall will give us a lot more confidence when we start the spring season," he said.

Field hockey feasts in Maine

By Sally Hartman
STAFF WRITER

Although the women's field hockey team traveled several hours across state lines to confront two formidable opponents, the Maine attraction this weekend turned out to be a Vermont product. Coming into the weekend, the Panthers faced two capable teams that posed a threat to their still untarnished record.

"We go into every game thinking it's going to be the hardest game we will play," said junior Janie Mackey. While the Panthers' competition did get stiffer as the weekend progressed, it was clearly nothing they couldn't handle.

The first streak came at the end of the first half when Allison Smith '06 assisted Claire Edelen '07 to put the Panthers on the board and even the score with Colby. Prior to Edelen's goal, no NESCAC team had been able to penetrate the pads of Colby's goalie in regulation play. After emerging from half-time with newfound vigor, the two teams engaged in a grueling exchange that lasted until the final minutes of the game.

With 7:17 left in the contest, Mary Reid Berrien '08 lifted the Panthers to a 2-1 lead with the help of senior captain Lauryn Nicasio. Having secured a victory with 26 shots on goal to Colby's 10, the only battle scar the Panthers suffered was a minor slap in the face, quite literally. Junior Whitney Boglioli took one for the team when a frustrated opponent's stick met the left side of her forehead. However, in spite of



Julie Weinberger

Senior Ashley Hall scored her first collegiate goal during last weekend's victory over Bowdoin. The team will take on Amherst this Saturday.